...ock a. m. Friends of the family are cordially in-
...to attend.
...IN—On Monday, Dec. 23, at 4 o'clock p. m.,
...H., only child of Geo. T. and Minnie E. Fisher,
...years and 9 months.
...ral from their residence 14 Centre-av., Wednesday,
...A. at 11 o'clock a. m. Friends of the family in-

...HELER—On Tuesday, 24th inst. at 325 Aberdeen-
...hydrocephalus, Julia Dalia, infant daughter of
...D. and Louisa Ida Wheeler, aged 1 month.
...STMAN—Sudd nly, in this city, on Sunday morning,
...24, Edwin G. Postman, aged 40 years.
...ves of funeral hereafter.

AUCTION SALES.

By WM. A. BUTTERS & CO.
81 and, 87 South Canal-st.

DRY GOODS,
...dy-Made Clothing, Shirts and
...Drawers, Woollens, Furs, Fancy
Goods, and a stock of
Boots and Shoes
AT AUCTION,
...sday Morning, Dec. 24, at 9 1-2 o'clock,
...Butters' Auction Rooms, 81 and 87 South Canal-st.
...e stock is fresh and desirable.
WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Auctioneers.

SALE BY AUCTION.
...ses, Carriages, Cutters, and Harness,
...UESDAY, Dec. 24, at 10 o'clock, at Butters' Ba-
...ge, No. 81 and 83 West Washington-st.
WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Auctioneers.

Ladies' Seal Sacques,
...nk and Black Fox Sets,
...ne Beaver & Chinchilla Overcoats.
...AUCTION, THIS MORNING, at 10 o'clock, at 81 and
...South Canal-st.
WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Auctioneers.

OIL PAINTINGS.
THE SALE OF
ALEX. VON WENDT'S COLLECTION,
...W ON EXHIBITION AT 288 STATE-ST.,
WILL BE SOLD
Friday Afternoon at 2 o'clock,
and evening at 7 o'clock.
WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Auctioneers.

2,000 Volumes of
MISCELLANEOUS
AND
CLASSICAL BOOKS
AT AUCTION,
...FRIDAY, Dec. 27, at 10 o'clock A. M.,
At 55 and 57 South Canal-st.
WM. A. BUTTERS & CO., Auctioneers.

By ELISON & FOSTER.

$20,000!

PAWNBROKER'S SALE
We will sell at
Public Auction,
...t our Store, No. 85 and 87 Market-
...t., on MONDAY and TUESDAY,
...ec. 23 and 24, at 10 o'clock a. m.
...nd 2 o'clock p. m., the whole of the
Unredeemed Pledges to Date
...f Mr. A. Goldsmith, 468 State-st.
...consisting of a large assortment of
...iamond Pins, Rings and Studs,
...lusters and Solitaires, from one to
...wo and a half carats, 1 magnificent
...iamond Set, 150 Gold American,
...wiss and English Watches, 400
...ilver Watches, assorted, solid Gold
...ewelry, Guns, Pistols, Musical In-
...truments, Opera Glasses, &c., &c.
The whole to be sold without re-
...serve, for cash, in order to rearrange
...he business on a new basis as early
...s possible after New Year.
ELISON & FOSTER,
Auctioneers.

By GEO. P. GORE & CO.
23, 24, and 25 East Randolph-st.

WE SHALL CLEAN OUT
On Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 9 1-2 a. m.,
800 CASES
MEN'S, BOYS', YOUTHS', & CHILDREN'S
Boots and Shoes
...A good line of WOMEN'S and MISSES'
...wear will be offered, and they WILL GO
...which buyers should make a note of.
GEO. P. GORE & CO.,
23, 24 and 25 Randolph-st.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
...INE FUR SETS, SHELL BOXES, AND FANCY
GOODS,
AT AUCTION,
On TUESDAY, Dec. 24, at 9½ a. m.,
GEO. P. GORE & CO.,
23, 24, and 25 Randolph-st.

Our Tuesday's Auction Sale
OF
DRY GOODS,
Piece Goods, Clothing, & Gent's
Furnishing Goods,
WILL ALSO INCLUDE
JAPANESE FANCY GOODS,
...anzy Toilet Soaps, and a line of Men's and Boys'
Caps, Turbans, and Army Clothing.
SALE TUESDAY, DEC. 24, at 9½ A. M.
GEO. P. GORE & CO.,
23, 24, and 25 Randolph-st.

By W. O. HOFFMAN, Auctioneer.
TEAS
AT AUCTION.
...PORTANT SALE OF TEAS. I. M. HOFFMAN
...SON & CO. will sell on
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1873, at 11 o'clock,
...t Roberts' Salesroom, Nos. 97 and
Water-st., New York.
...n order of the importer, 12,000 packages choice
...een Teas, comprising invoices of Green Teas, Oolong
...eas, and Japan.
Catalogues and samples will be ready at the office of the
...uctioneer on and after the 2d of January, and at the
...alesroom two days previous to sale.

By HARRISON & CO.
DRY GOODS,
FANCY GOODS, &c
This Morning, at 11 o'clock.
...Also, a large lot Fancy China Ware, Fu
...hawls, Brooche and long, and a splendid
...rtment of desirable goods.
HARRISON & CO., Auctioneers,
...8 South Canal-st.
Peremptory Sale of Property,
69 WEST MONROE-ST.
LOT 42x182 TO 18 FT. ALLY,
...hursday Morning, Dec. 24, at 10 o'clo
Title perfect, with full abstract to date. Sale to be
...e promises.
HARRISON & CO.,
...Auctioneers.

Christopher Crooked.
Price reduced to 50 cents.
AT W. B. KEEN, COOKE & CO.'S.

MUSICAL.
400
Pianos and Organs
For the Holidays.
...The largest stock in the city. Just look at
...me of our prices. Splendid new 7-octave
...sewood Pianos, which we fully guarantee.
PIANOS at $225.
PIANOS at $250.
PIANOS at $275.
PIANOS at $300.
PIANOS at $350.
PIANOS at $400.
ORGANS at $60.
ORGANS at $75.
ORGANS at 100.
ORGANS at $125.
ORGANS at $150.
ORGANS at $175.
...e sell on instalments to suit purchasers.
STORY & CAMP,
211 State-st., cor. Adams.

GENERAL NOTICES.
To Accommodate
...ur customers and friends, we
...ill keep our Store open to-day
...til 1 o'clock.
MATSON & CO.,
State and Monroe-sts.

NOTICE.
...E. WARREN, late in our employ, has no longer any
...uthority with us, and not authorized to collect or do
...y business for us whatever.
D. M. SWINEY & BRO.

INSURANCE.
PHENIX
Insurance Company
OF BROOKLYN.
Assets Nov. 1, 1872 - - - $2,032,000
INCORPORATED 1853.
...al Income - - - - - - - $1,400,000
...ness not confined to one locality, but scattered
...er Eight Hundred Agencies in the United States.
S. CRITCHELL, Agent,
127 LA SALLE-ST.

REMOVALS.
REMOVAL.
...M. BRADSTREET & SON, IMPROVED
MERCANTILE AGENCY,
...ffice of this Agency has been removed to 63 Wash-
...gton-st., in the building lately occupied by the Com-
...ercial Bank, where it will remain there until the
...ction of Portland Block.

REMOVAL.
GERSTENBERG,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
...Removed to 199 East Kinzie-st.

FINANCIAL.
DIG
...ur choice. We have as complete and extensive sys-
...m in this city as any yet established, and make
...ans and negotiate loans in any part of the country will do well to
...ll on or send for circular. FRASIER'S
...ollection Agency, 148 East Madison-st.

Loans Negotiated
...n sums, in the city or suburbs, at current rates.
G. S. HUBBARD, Jr.,
...168 East Washington-st.

INSURANCE CLAIMS
...Stamp, Pioneer, Equitable, Chicago Fire, Great
...ern, Home, and Continentals wanted for cash, by
F. WITHERELL, 368 Wabash av.

PUBLIC INSURANCE CERTIFICATES
...ow at market price.
R. D. STILES,
120 South Clark-st., Room 5.

MISCELLANEOUS.
LOST.
...ld Hunting Case Watch marked "Jennie," with
...ain attached, somewhere between my house,
...0 West Washington-st., and Morton's Bookstore.
...ill be suitably rewarded on its return to me.
G. F. RANDALL, 250 West Washington-st.

BACKGAMMON BOARDS
AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
...d Oliver, Page, Hoyne & Co.'s,
...18 and 120 Monroe-st., Chicago.

RAILROAD CONTRACTORS.
...ood and desirable contract is about to be let. First-
...ass, with large capital, may learn particulars as
...o when and where need apply. Address
CHARLES H. ROBBINS,
P. O. Box 3370, New York City.

Israel's Pharmacy,
...No. 48 ...-street, corner Harmon-court, can be found a
...ll and beautiful selection of
HOLIDAY GOODS,
OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

MEETINGS.
Masonic.
...Special assembly of Oriental Consistory S. ' P. '
...R. ' will be held on Tuesday Eve., 26th inst., at Ma-
...onic Hall, Halsted and Randolph-sts., for the
...ork of the 32°. All members are hereby notified to
...ttend by order of Ill. ' Com. ' in. ' Chief.
C. S. SLOUTER, 32°, Gr. ', Sec.

I. O. O. F.
...Lodge, No. 6. You are hereby notified that the
...egular meeting of this ' will be held at Hall
...ork and W. ' Thursday evening.
...ERNARD, Sec.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER.
THE CHAMPION
Fire Extinguisher Co.,
OF LOUISVILLE, KY.
Capital - - - $1,500,000
SAML H. PATTERSON, President.
E. J. MITCHELL, Secretary and Treasurer.
J. B. VAN DYNE, Superintendent.
DIRECTORS:
SILAS F. MILLER, JAMES BRIDGEFORD,
DILLARD RICKETTS, SAML H. PATTERSON,
NORVIN GREEN, JNO. W. FINNELL,
W. F. HARRIS.
We have this day appointed HORATIO M. SMITH, No. 54 Market-st., our Agent at Chicago for the sale of our large, self-acting Village Engine and Hand Fire Extinguisher.
THE CHAMPION
Is declared to be the simplest, the most effective, and the only always reliable self-acting Fire Extinguisher in use. It is an entirely new invention. The letters patent all issued within the present year. It is therefore free from the defects of all other fire extinguishers before the public. The inventor of the CHAMPION, Mr. J. B. Van Dyne, having had many years' experience in introducing and handling fire extinguishers, brings forward the CHAMPION, greatly superior to all others.
Corporations and individuals desirous of protecting their property against fire, will do well to examine the CHAMPION on WHEELS, with 200 feet of hose, with hook and ladder attachments. It has a capacity of over
13,000 GALLONS
from a single charge of its two large cylinders, so arranged as to throw two effective streams over 100 feet for any length of time, or four effective streams over 100 feet, each at the same time, if an emergency requires. The
Champion Extinguisher,
Hand size, is a model of simplicity and effectiveness for the purpose intended—always ready, and never out of order. It acts with unerring certainty and with great efficiency.
...Dec. 19, 1872.

MUSICAL.
SYSTEM FOR BEGINNERS
On the PIANOFORTE, By
MASON & HOADLEY.
This thorough and practical method has acquired a Golden Reputation as one of the very best Instruction Books. Sells largely. Published with American, also with Foreign Fingering. Price, $3.00.

GEMS OF STRAUSS!
...The surprising success of this brilliant book continues. Edition after edition is scarcely called for. 250 large pages, full of the best Strauss Music. Price, Boards, $2.50; Cloth, $3.00. Fine Gilt for presents, $4.00.

EMERSON'S SINGING SCHOOL,
Has abundant material for the instruction of evening and other Singing Classes. Widely used. Costs less than a Church Music Book. Price, 75 cents.

WINNER'S NEW SCHOOLS
For the Piano-Forte, Cabinet Organ, Melodeon, Guitar, Cornet, Violin, Flute, Accordeon, German Accordeon, Clarionet, Flute, Fifes, etc. Price of each book 75 cts.
These little works are great favorites because they are cheap, are full of easy and lively music, and have enough of instructive matter for the wants of amateurs.
The above books mailed, post-paid, for the retail price.
OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston.
CHAS. H. DITSON & CO., New York.
LYON & HEALY, Chicago.

OCEAN NAVIGATION.
Anchor Line.
The new and powerful steamships of this popular line sail regularly EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON from the Company's Pier, No. 20 NORTH RIVER, NEW YORK, with goods and passengers for
Glasgow, Liverpool, and all parts of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Continent of Europe.
FARE PAYABLE IN U. S. CURRENCY.
To or from British and Irish ports - - - $30.00
To or from Hamburg, Antwerp, Havre, &c. - - 35.00
To or from Bremen, Gottenburg, Bergen, &c. - - 38.00
First Cabin, fare $60 to $95, and return tickets at reduced rates.
Send for circular giving full information.
HENDERSON BROTHERS, Agents,
7 Bowling Green, New York, and 324 Wabash-av., Chicago.

JEWELRY, &c.
TO-DAY
We shall keep our Store open for business, to accommodate our friends and customers.
RODDIN & HAMILTON,
State and Washington-sts.

SPECTACLES.
MONEY CANNOT BUY IT!
For Sight is Priceless!!
But the Diamond Spectacles will Preserve It

If you value your eyesight see these perfect Lenses, ground from minute crystal pebbles, mounted together, and carries their name, "Diamond," on account of their Hardness and Brilliancy. They will last many years without change, and are warranted superior to all others in use. Manufactured by
R. SPENCER & CO., Opticians, New York.
CAUTION—None genuine unless stamped with our trade mark.
For sale by responsible agents throughout the Union.
J. B. MAYO & CO., 268 State-st., and 91 West Madison-st., and W. M. MAYO, corner Wabash-av. and Twenty-st., JOHN G. ASHLEMAN, No. 42 Wabash-av., Jewellers and Opticians, are sole agents for Chicago, Ill., from whom they can only be obtained. No peddlers employed.

STOVES.
X-MAS.
We will GIVE AWAY A FIRST-CLASS SELF-FEEDING
BASE BURNER PARLOR STOVE
At the nominal price of $10, to introduce them during holidays. Wholesale and retail.
CLEVELAND G. STOVE CO., Mfrs.,
Office 34 Union-st., cor. West Washington.

Christopher Crooked.
ST W. B. KEEN.
Price reduced to 50 cents.
AT JANSEN, McCLURG & CO.'S.

TO RENT.
TO RENT.
The Basement and 2d and 3d Stories of Brick Building, No. 13 Michigan-av. Apply on premises.
H. W. DURANT.

The Chicago Daily Tribune.

VOLUME 26. CHICAGO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1872. NUMBER 128.

FIRES.

A Perfect Carnival of Flame Throughout the Country.

Burning of Barnum's Museum, in New York---Loss About One Million.

The Third Time the Great Showman Has Been Burned Out.

Destruction of a Large Book Bindery and Printing Office — Loss, $350,000.

Narrow Escape of Forty Female Operatives from Burning to Death.

Fires in Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Elmira, and Elsewhere.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—For the third time, Barnum's Museum, in this city, has disappeared in flame and smoke. His establishment was in Lent's old hippotheatron, on Fourteenth street, near the Academy of Music, and consisted of a splendid menagerie and museum, and was by far the finest he has ever had in the metropolis. His collection of curiosities was better and larger, while his menagerie embraced over one hundred choice animals, of which only two elephants and one camel were saved. A quarter of a million of dollars will probably cover what the flames have destroyed, but the loss of four beautiful giraffes, together with numerous other animals that Mr. Barnum had been collecting in the four quarters of the globe ever since the old Broadway establishment was burnt out, is absolute. Barnum himself is in New Orleans. The building was a frame precisely like Talmage's Tabernacle, burnt last Sunday, and like Dr. Hepworth's Church, now erecting near Vanderbilt's great depot. It was a vast framework of pine covered with corrugated sheet-iron. The flames enveloped the interior in a surprisingly short time. The dying agonies of the unwonted congregation of animals are vividly described by the spectators. The cages containing the four giraffes were opened, but the terrified creatures seemed paralyzed and would not budge. Some of the keepers wept on finding that they had to abandon their charges. The immense elephant that played the hand organ also refused to leave, but got on his knees and perished, rubbing his head against the earth and roaring in anguish. The fierce banging of the lions and tigers against their cages could be heard above all the din. The Academy of Music was saved by the favorable direction of the wind. Among the animals destroyed were eight camels and dromedaries, one leopard, one yak, one eland, one llama, two sea lions, two boa-constrictors, apes, gorillas, ostriches, etc. The list of the surrounding property destroyed is given in the Associated Press despatches.

As usually happens when the weather is extremely cold, one large fire has quickly succeeded another. The loss this evening by the burning of Dunn, Barlow & Co.'s printing office, on Centre street, and several adjacent buildings, is about $250,000. A great catastrophe, similar to that at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, was averted by the printing office being furnished with fire escapes, as required by law. The fire originated near an elevator, beside a stairway, cutting off the escape in that direction of fifty girls employed in the book-bindery in the fourth story. With the nerve of desperation they descended the iron ladder affixed to the outside of the building. It was nearly dark, and the panic was great, particularly in the crowd below, but no fatal injuries are reported.

Barnum telegraphs here, to-night, that he has cabled to his European agents to spend half a million in replacing the menagerie. He promises his new show shall start on its travels next April. His company lost all their wardrobe and musical instruments.

One of the girls working in the book bindery that burned this evening is missing, and may have perished in the flames. Two or three others were severely contused and bruised in their terror-stricken push down the fire-escape.

[To the Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Barnum's Museum and Menagerie, on Fourteenth street, opposite the Academy of Music, was burned this morning. The fire was first observed about 4 o'clock, and in half an hour the entire building, though constructed of iron, was in ruins. The flames quickly spread to the buildings on either side. Grace Chapel, on the easterly side, was burned to the ground, and the Lawrence mansion, on the westerly side, was seriously damaged. The fire ran through the block to Thirteenth street, destroying the carriage factory of Miner & Stevens and that of F. Grate. The loss will amount to $500,000.

Another account says the loss will reach $1,000,000.

The only animals saved from the menagerie are the camel and elephant. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The following are additional particulars of the burning of Barnum's menagerie: Wiles, a police officer, at 4:16 this morning, while on his patrol, noticed fire bursting through the roof of the circus, immediately over where the giraffes were kept, and immediately after the animals and birds began screeching and howling in a terrible manner. Alarms were soon sounded, but the flames spread with such rapidity that, almost before the firemen could get water on, Barnum's circus was a thing of the past. The firemen report that the roars of the animals were frightful during the short time that they lasted. Two elephants and a camel were the only animals saved. When these were led out by their keepers, they were given a large space by the crowd squeezing the fire, although the animals were very docile, considering the excitement on all sides. The front building was two stories high, and composed nearly altogether of corrugated iron and wood. The structure burned, however, as though it was a tinder-box. The firemen and others were unable to stand within a hundred feet of the burning building, the heat was so intense. The windows of the Academy of Music were cracked and broken with the heat, the doors were blistered, and the bill-boards in front of the Academy were burned on that side toward the circus. Nothing could be done to save any of the animals.

Grace Chapel was wholly consumed, only the front walls being left standing.

The German Episcopal Church, which adjoined Barnum's Museum, was also burned.

It was very much feared that the Academy of Music, which is directly opposite, would also be consumed. It evidently would have been had not the wind changed, which caused the fire to extend across to Thirteenth street, destroying on its way the large carriage manufactory of Stevens & Co., and several private dwellings. No lives are reported lost.

LATER—5 p. m.—The fire in Barnum's Menagerie next spread to the mansion of Mrs. Lawrence, consuming it, and then to the iron front building occupied by F. Grate, ivory dealer, which, with a rear building occupied by the same, were both destroyed. It then spread to Miner & Stevens' carriage factory, on Thirteenth street, the rear portion of which was burned, with $30,000 worth of carriages. Curley's carriage factory, adjoining, was also slightly damaged.

Barnum's losses are variously estimated at from $300,000 to $800,000. Barnum is said to be in New Orleans.

The loss to the Lawrence estate is $20,000; insured.

Grate's loss is $300,000; insurance, $120,000.

Reed & Co., varnish dealers, lost all their fixtures and stock.

Jackson & Co., dealers in fringes, lost all their stock.

Remworth, manufacturer of piano strings, lost all his stock.

Thousands of people visited the ruins during the day, and a large force of police are on duty to keep the firemen from being impeded in their duty. It is reported that Barnum's insurance on the animals is only $35,000. The two elephants and camels saved will cover one-half of that.

It appears that Barnum's insurance on the building and contents is in the neighborhood of $90,000.

In his report for November, Fire Marshal McSpede called attention to the unsafe condition of Barnum's Museum, and the danger of surrounding property from it.

The Grace Chapel destroyed to-day, was a free church supported by Grace Church. The pastor, Mr. Kramer, lost a valuable library by the fire.

A building in Duane street was partially burned to-day, causing damages to Sperling's cloth warehouse to the extent of $20,000; insured.

Several small fires have also occurred in different parts of the city to-day.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Palisade House, near Englewood, N. J., on the Hudson River, was burned this morning. Insured for $160,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The entire block on the west side of Centre street, between Leonard and Worth, was burned this evening. The flames broke out near the boiler in the basement of the building 81, 83, and 85 Centre street, and speedily communicated with the upper floors, whence they spread to the adjoining buildings, 87, 89, 91, also to 79 and 77 Centre street and 130 and 132 Leonard street. In 81, 83, and 85 the following parties are losers: New York Newspaper Company; Aiken & Cremer, of Milwaukee; Dunn, Barlow & Co., printing office; Anderson, Archer & company, bookbinders. In 87 James Gallagher, dealer in brass goods. In 89 and 91 were the law offices of Howe and Hummell and Howe, and Shortar, Edwards and Price, and the liquor store of George Middleton. No. 79 was occupied by E. B. Cummins as a paint shop and dwelling, and 77, by Dye Wilkins as a liquor store. Nos. 130 and 132 Leonard street, were occupied by numerous families, and the first floors as groceries. Two girls employed in the building where the fire commenced were severely injured; also, two men, one of whom, Benjamin Bellard, probably fatally. There is a rumor that six girls perished in the flames, but the report needs confirmation. The total loss is estimated at $500,000.

LATER.—Thirty-eight young women, employed in the upper stories of 81, 83 and 85 Centre street, fled down the staircase and by the fire escape when the alarm was given. Two fell, when several feet up, to the ground, and were severely injured. Their names are Mary Hopkins, 506 First avenue, and Emma Francis, 149 Mercer street. The building was a mere shell, filled with inflammable material. The flames burst from every window, threatening the *Chipper* office opposite, and other buildings.

Joseph Pike, printer, residing 43 Franklin street, was struck on the head by a falling brick and had his skull fractured. He will probably die. Benjamin Balton was less seriously injured.

The building 81, 83 and 85, was owned by the Claxton estate. Loss $150,000; small insurance, being of dangerous construction.

The loss of Cramer, Aikens & Cramer, formerly of Milwaukee, but now known as the New York Newspaper Company, is $50,000; fully insured. Dunn, Barlow & Co. lose $20,000, insured; Anderson, Archer & Co. lose $30,000; partly insured. The building 87 and 89 Centre street was owned by the Fortillard estate, whose loss is $10,000. Among the other losers, of whom there is quite a large number, are James Gallagher $10,000, and John L. Alfrek, grocer, $10,000. No. 132 Leonard street, tenement, was damaged $15,000. Total loss about $350,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Luck's box factory and Funk's piano factory, in Nineteenth street, were burned last night. The loss is $40,000; insured.

Barber's elevator, in Brooklyn, was burned last night, with a loss of $20,000.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Dec. 24.—A disastrous fire occurred in this city early this morning. Some wooden buildings, twelve in number, in the business portion of the city, on the bank of the river, between Railroad avenue and Main street, were burned completely to the ground. They were occupied as carpenter shops, furniture establishments, ornamental plaster manufactories, and a variety of other businesses. Among these was the Pennsylvania House, a large hotel, was destroyed. In the second stories of many of the buildings families resided, and their summary turning out into the bitter cold caused much distress. The loss will fall not far short of $50,000, with not over $10,000 insurance.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 24.—A large woollen manufactory in Pawtucket, owned by Almy Bros., was nearly destroyed by fire this afternoon. The two lower stories were unoccupied, except for storage. The upper story was occupied by H. F. Bishop & Co., manufacturers, who were insured for $9,000, which covers one-half of their loss.

BURLINGTON, Iowa, Dec. 24.—A fire in Hibernia at 4 o'clock this morning destroyed the pork packing establishment of George Boeck. Loss, $28,000; insured for $16,000; cause of the fire accidental.

FORT SCOTT, Kansas, Dec. 24.—A fire at Fontana, Kansas, yesterday morning, destroyed fourteen houses in the southern part of the town. No insurance.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—The Standard carpet mills, on Blair street; Alle's carpet manufactory, and Ring's yarn spinning establishment, were totally burned this evening. The loss is $50,000.

PERILS BY WATER.

The Rise in the Ohio River—Steamers Injured.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24.—Captain David Laker, of the steamer General Buell, telegraphs from Madison, Ind., that the gorge below that point has caused an eight foot rise of water, and then broke, when the flooding ice cut down the Louisville and Cincinnati mail steamer General Buell this afternoon. In sinking she settled easy, and it is thought the rising of the river will save her. Hopes are entertained that the rise in the Ohio River now running out will keep it open till the cold snap passes away.

MADISON, Ind., Dec. 24.—The rise in the Ohio River reached this place about half-past 1 o'clock to-day, breaking up the ice gorge, the huge cakes of ice carrying everything before them. The steamers General Buell and Nat. Williams, and the ferryboat Belle, of Milton, were sunk. The steamer Henry Probasco, lying at the Marine Wharf, was carried by the ice from 200 to 300 yards down the river, when she was secured to the shore by means of extra cables, very slightly damaged. Several barges and flats also carried away or sunk. The ferry boat is battered and broken, leaking in every seam, now crowded on shore. The Buell lies in about four feet of water. Should the rise continue till the water covers the deck, the damage will be very extensive. Her guards are already badly damaged. One of the huge pieces of oak ten inches square which supports the cabin was snapped in twain. The ice is running very heavy and the weather is extremely cold.

Proposed Building Laws in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—The Law Committee of the Councils have agreed to submit an ordinance to the Councils making it unlawful in the city limits to build cornices of combustible material, and all cornices or other constructions for connecting roofs and walls, or enclosing the points of connections are to be made of brick or other incombustible material. Roofs are to be constructed of slate, metal, or other incombustible material. Mansards on buildings over 35 feet high, are to be made in all parts of incombustible material.

The Methodists vs. Tyndall.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—At a meeting of the Methodist preachers, yesterday, strong ground was taken against Professor Tyndall's prayer gauge theory.

Identified.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The man murdered on the island, in South Washington, was named Rogerski, a German pedler, who had $200 in his possession.

RAILROAD DISASTERS.

A Passenger Train Breaks Through a Trestle, and Falls Forty Feet.

Four Persons Killed Instantly---One Fatally and Others Seriously Injured.

Other Minor Accidents---Several People Injured.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 24.—The *Times'* Jeffersonville, Ind., special says that the south-bound freight train on the Jeffersonville, Madison & Indianapolis Road, jumped off the track at Henryville, at 3 o'clock this morning, plunging thirteen cars and the locomotive over a steep embankment, making a total wreck of the train. John Beleh, the engineer, George Colter, fireman, and Koons, brakeman, were instantly killed.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

URBANA, O., Dec. 24.—Frank Ashland, engineer on a freight train, was killed about 3½ miles west of this place, to-day. In coupling his engine to the trains is head was caught in some manner, crushing his skull, and causing instant death. His remains were taken to Columbus, where he leaves a wife and two children.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 24.—A broken rail let off a train on the Air Line Division of the Michigan Central Railroad this morning, and quite a number of accidents have occurred on the main line and branches, but nothing serious.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

JANESVILLE, Wis., Dec. 24.—The accident last night on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, near Harvard, injured the engineer, Steven Hotaling, and a brakeman, named Ben. Hilt. Neither was seriously injured. Six coaches went off the track, and were considerably broken up.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 24.—Train No. 6 on the Cross Cut Road, leaving Corry at 1 p. m. to-day, ran through the high trestle over Goose Creek. The trestle is some forty feet high. The train is a wreck below, and burning. It is reported some eight or nine persons were killed, and a number injured.

LATER.—The accident on the Cross Cut Railroad occurred a few rods south of Prospect Station, eight miles from Brockton. Two cars were burned, and, as far as learned, four men killed: Con. Maloney, road master; Frank Taylor, baggageman; Mark Haight, Brockton, and E. Bell, of Thurman, N. Y.; Fay Flanders, the Conductor, is dying; Earl Bacon, the mail agent, is dangerously injured. Others are injured, but no names can be learned.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Dec. 24.—Passenger train No. 2, coming east on the Iowa Division of the Illinois Central, was thrown from the track while passing under the wagon bridge and through the deep cut about a mile east of Epworth, last night. The train consisted of a baggage car, one mail and express car, two coaches, and one Pullman sleeping car. The engine was not thrown from the track, but all the cars were turned over on their side. The accident is supposed to have been caused by the breaking of a rail, broken by the engine passing over it. The express messenger, E. A. Gullett, Jr., of Dubuque, was injured by the safe falling upon him. A surgeon from Waterloo, who was on the train, states that Gulbert is injured internally, and he fears fatally. Mr. J. W. Anderson, of Winthrop, was badly bruised about the head, and a number of other persons were somewhat bruised, but none others were seriously injured.

WALL STREET.

Review of the Money, Bond, Gold, Stock, and Produce Markets.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Wall street markets were generally very quiet, owing to the approach of Christmas. Money was comparatively easy in the morning to borrowers on call, at 7 per cent to 1-32, but more active in the afternoon, and advanced to 1-16, with closing loans mostly at 1-32. Prime bankers' notes are quoted nominally at 12.

EXCHANGE AND GOLD.

Foreign exchange was dull and lower. About £150,000 of borrowed bills were placed on the market yesterday, and the remnants of these bills to-day had a tendency to cause a disparity between brokers' asking prices and the street rates.

Gold was dull and steady at 111⅜ to 111¾.

BONDS.

Government bonds were firm and in some instances higher. The demand was pretty active, but few bonds were offered, and there is great difficulty in purchasing important amounts; 1867s sold as high as 116½.

STOCKS.

The stock market closed early after a day devoted somewhat to Christmas pranks. The volume of business was not large. The market shows a weakening tendency, as large holders are disposed to sell in response to the bullish feeling among the small operators, particularly in the leading shares.

PRODUCE.

Flour closes firmer for all grades under $7.50. Other grades are without material change. Wheat closes better for spring, and with a fairly active demand, chiefly for export. Winter was firm but quiet, with moderate offerings.

Pork was moderately active, with sales of 5,000 brls new for December at $13.50, and 200 brls do on spot at $13.75 for inspected. Cut meats—Sales 45 tcs pickled hams, 15 lbs, at 9¼c; 10,000 do bellies, 41 lbs average, at 7¼c. Bacon in good demand for short clear on the spot, which was scarce, and quoted at 7¾@7¾c. Sales: 50 boxes short clear on the spot at 7¾c. Lard dull and unsettled for spot. Western freely offered at 7¾c on spot; 7¾c bid for future delivery; 500 tcs sold for April for 8¼c, and 500 tcs city for January at 7¾c.

EVANSVILLE.

A Murder Trial Interrupted—A Serious Cutting Affray—Accident to General A. P. Hovey.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 22.—A special to the *Journal* says that the trial of Riddehels, at Owensboro, Ky., for the murder of Throckmorton, was interrupted to-day by the serious illness of one of the jurors. The jury was dismissed and the case will be tried over.

Another *Journal* special, from Rockport, says that Daniel Leobtz, just released from the Elizabethtown jail, cut William Biles with a razor at Rockport to-day, giving a probably fatal wound.

General A. P. Hovey fell in Mt. Vernon, Ind., last night and broke his wrist.

Burned to Death.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 24.—Miss Belle Spence, a young lady about 18 years of age, residing on Eighth street, in this city, was fatally burned while attempting to light a fire, this afternoon, with coal oil. She had prepared the fire, and, to hurry it up, took up a can of oil, and, while in the act of pouring the oil on the fire, it ignited and exploded the can. Her clothes immediately took fire, and, before assistance could reach her, she was so fearfully burned that all hope of saving her life is abandoned.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

KNOXUX, Iowa, Dec. 24.—A lady, about 80 years of age, named Sarah Potter, met with a horrible death last evening. She was engaged in cooking, when her clothes caught fire from the stove, and before assistance reached her she was burned in a frightful manner, having been literally roasted alive. She died in a few hours afterwards, suffering in the meantime the most intense pain. The dwelling in which she lived narrowly escaped destruction by fire.

Railroad News.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway was completed to Dennison, Tex., last night, and regular trains will run to and from that point to-day.

DENISON, Texas, Dec. 24.—Track-layers on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad reached this city to-day, and a regular passenger train leaves here to-night for the North. Denison, on its third monthly birthday, with its 2,500 inhabitants in 400 buildings, two newspapers, two banks, and business represented in the same ratio, sends a Christmas greeting to the outside world. Five hundred bales of cotton are here waiting shipment on the first freight train North.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Dec. 24.—The tunnel on the Galena & Muscoda Narrow Gauge Road, between Galena and Platteville, Wis., has been bored 101 feet in the north end, and 60 in the south end, or 161 feet in all, exclusive of the approaches, which required an excavation 245 feet in length. There remain 212 feet to complete the great bore. A strong force is working at each end, and the distance between the two forces is being reduced about twenty-four feet per week. At this rate the work will be completed early in March. The tunnel is twelve feet wide and seventeen feet high, arched at the top in a rock that makes a safe and solid roof. At the bottom it is now running along a horizontal seam, which furnishes an excellent foundation.

WASHINGTON.

PROTECTION FOR AMERICAN WINE GROWERS.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The Internal Revenue Bureau is preparing a bill for the better protection of wine growers in the United States, and to prevent the manufacture of imitation wines. The bill be ready for presentation to Congress by about the middle of January. Several extensive wine-growers in the West have been requested to give the Bureau the necessary information in relation to the matter. Letters to this effect have been forwarded to Mr. Werk, E. A. Thomson, L. Buchanan, and Zimmerman & Co., wine-growers at Cincinnati.

THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.

William Whiting, member-elect of Congress from Boston, and the lawyer to whom the Government looks for advice in the telegraph matters, is now here and is preparing, at the instance of the Attorney General, an opinion as to what rights the Government has in the overland telegraph lines, and especially those which were built on the grants of the various Pacific Railroad Companies. The opinion will be submitted to the Attorney General, to-morrow, and it is understood that it assumes that the Government has rights at least in the lines of the Union Pacific Railroad.

LETTER OF CONSOLATION.

The gentlemen of the State Department recently wrote a joint letter to Mr. Frederick Seward, condoling with him upon the loss of his father, the late Hon. Wm. H. Seward. A reply was received to-day, expressing the gratification afforded him by the sentiments of the gentlemen, who were for a long time associated officially and intimately with the ex-Secretary during those eventful years in the history of this country in which he performed so important a part, while Head of the Foreign Office.

[To the Associated Press.]

THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The President telegraphed from Mifflin, Pa., this morning, he was detained by snow and ice, but expects to reach Washington by a late train to-night.

CHRISTMAS.

The various Departments will be closed to-morrow.

THE NEW ARMY UNIFORM.

General Sherman and staff will wear the newly adopted army uniform for the first time on making an official call upon the President on New Year's Day.

INTERCOURSE WITH THE TREASURY.

Several attorneys and claim agents are endeavoring to indnce Secretary Boutwell to modify his order relative to their official intercourse with the Treasury Department.

CUBAN EMANCIPATION.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A Washington despatch states that the reported coalition of the South American States to force Spain to relinquish her rule over Cuba, is unknown to diplomatic representatives.

INDIAN BOUNTY FRAUDS.

It is stated that the Government has withdrawn from the arbitration in the case of the Wright-Indian-bounty frauds, by which Wright obtained about half a million dollars, which he still holds.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Simmons, the murderer of Duryea, was removed last night from the Park Hospital to an unknown place of safety by the police, owing, as is stated, to the fact that the police became aware of the formation of a vigilance committee of some forty men, who intended taking Simmons from the hospital and h

A CHRISTMAS ROSE.

From Appletons' Journal.

It was Christmas-eve when a party of half a dozen ladies and as many more gentlemen were assembled in the library of Holly Lodge discussing the state of the weather in general and of the roads in particular. There was no snow on the ground—there rarely is at a Southern Christmas—but it had rained steadily for a week, and the result may be imagined by any one who has ever had any acquaintance with a red-clay soil after he has been subjected to a prolonged and soaking inundation.

"We are virtual prisoners!" the young lady of the house—Hope Beresford—was saying, plaintively. "Our friends on this side of the river may succeed in plowing through the mud and reaching us in time for the ball to-night; but we cannot hope for *anybody* from the other side. Papa says the river is past ferrying this morning.

"Which is certainly dispiriting news when the only person one cares to see must come from the other side," said Rosalind Earle, in her slightly-mocking voice. "But take heart, my dear. If he cares to see you as he should care, he will come, despite the river."

"But how can he?" asked Hope, opening her large blue eyes. She did not deny that it was her *fiance* of whom she was speaking—a young lawyer living in the town of X——, distant from Holly Lodge fifteen miles, with a swollen river between.

Rosalind laughed a silvery, unpleasant laugh. Then she added a line from a poem she had been lately reading: "Who does not dare the impossible, has never dared to love."

"I am sure I don't believe *that*," said Hope, innocently; "and I should be wretched if I thought Archie would be foolish enough to run the risk of drowning himself to prove his love for me. I should much prefer that he proved it by taking care of himself and staying quietly in X——."

Rosalind's lip curled. "I should never be won in that fashion," she said. "A man must prove something before I believe him. He must be willing to brave the worst possible danger—were it even for a caprice of mine."

We all gazed at her as she said those audacious words. She was never other than beautiful and imposing—this exquisite Rosalind Earle—but just then she looked superb. I thought I had never seen her appear to greater advantage than as she stood stately and erect by the fire, dressed in a rich black silk, made with sufficient plainness to show the sweeping curves of her figure, and her beautiful hair piled on her graceful head. A scarlet knot of ribbon at her throat was the only point of color in her costume, but it seemed to match the vivid flush on her cheek, and the haughty sparkle in her eye. Looking round to seek a cause for these signs of excitement, I found that she had only a few minutes before quitted a deep bay-window where Stuart Carew —at that time her most favored lover—still lingered. I have written the word "lover" advisedly, instead of "suitor" or "admirer." Rosalind Earle was a great heiress as well as a great beauty; and it followed, of course, that her wealth had many suitors, while the number of those who admired her beauty might have been reckoned by the number of all who had ever known her. But there were not a few who loved she brilliant, fascinating woman for her own sake—and of these I am sure that Stuart Carew was one.

He came forward now, looking, I thought, a trifle pale and agitated.

"Have you ever read Schiller's ballad of 'The Glove,' Miss Russell?" he said, addressing me. "I fancy that when Cunigunde—wasn't that her name?—threw her glove into the arena, she looked somewhat as Miss Earle looks now."

"Perhaps she felt somewhat as Miss Earle feels," said that young lady, scornfully. "Then, also turning to me: "Lucy, have you read Browning's rendition of the same ballad? It is worth reading, I assure you. Cunigunde tells her story in it, and, if my memory does not fail me, makes a complete justification of her seeming cruelty. Listen, and see if you do not think so." She threw back her head—I can see her now in her proud beauty, with the firelight gleaming on a diamond-cross which she wore at her slender throat—and repeated the verses with a spirit and fire I shall never forget:

> "You long had I heard
> Of the deed proved done by the word;
> For my love—what De Lorge would not dare?
> With my scorn—what De Lorge could compare?
> And the endless descriptions of death
> His would brave—even my lip formed a breath,
> I must reckon as braved, or, of course,
> Doubt his word; and, moreover, perforce,
> For such gifts as no doubt I could spurn,
> Must offer my love in return.
>
> * * * * *
>
> So, when I judged it to make
> One trial what 'death for my sake'
> Really meant, while the power was yet mine,
> Train to wait until time should define
> Such a phrase not so simply as I,
> Who took it to mean just 'to die.'"

It did not need the glance—half mocking, half haughty—which she gave Stuart Carew at the last words, to tell me that I had listened to a challenge as well as a justification. The young fellow looked a little haughty himself, as he stood before her, and very handsome too, with his black velvet morning-coat setting off the delicacy of his face and the grace of his form. "I love, not De Lorge," he

LONDON.

The Strike of the Gas-Stokers.

A Great City in Darkness---Inconveniences of the Situation.

The Trades-Union Question.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Dec. 5, 1872.

Scarcely have the policemen been forgiven for another class, upon whose regularity the comfort of the public almost equally depends, have revolted. It's a mercy, the people say, that the two did not strike together. If London was both in darkness and without its police, decent folks would have a good deal to be afraid of.

If you listen to gray-headed men of the upper class, they will tell you society is in an unprecedented condition; a spirit of insurrection against established authorities, of insubordination and license is at work; labor is learning its power, and is abusing it. I cannot find, however, in my reading, a period in modern English history in which the same thing was not being said. Circumstances and conditions change, but there are always timid conservatives and rash destructives. England is not so badly off as when the laborers were burning machinery and the peasants firing the stacks. But the form of the struggle is unquestionably new.

THE TRADES-UNIONS.

Twenty years ago, the Trades-Unions were of small account. They were disliked, but they were scarcely feared. In the Legislature, not half-a-dozen men in England have apologized for them. They were committed to violence and to folly. Had their earlier rules been successfully established, English industry would, at this moment, be little more than a name. But the mouths of society and the progress of education have done something. Trades-Unions too have stood more out of the way of progress, and have not sought so sedulously to sacrifice the future to the profit of the hour. In proportion as their extravagance has become less, their political influence has become more. The members of the various Societies possess votes, and Parliament has given a legal sanction to organizations which once were formally under its ban. Noted leaders in past strikes are named Royal Commissioners; they preach in Dissenting pulpits, and write in Quarterly Reviews. Members of the aristocracy patronize them, and bring them into club smoking-rooms; and University Professors stand upon their platforms and encourage them to extremes. A little while ago, it seemed as though the workingman was the most "fashionable" member of society. The Tories court him painfully; and, of the representatives of the large cities, scarcely a dozen dare give him words of counsel or rebuke. Under this fostering, the organization of the Trades-Unions has grown strong, and with success comes tyranny. It sometimes looks as though this large giant, Industry, was going to stop in his labors, and to smash everything within his reach.

A MANY-HEADED TYRANT.

If the philosophy of the gas-stokers now on strike is to be adopted, Eglish trade must stand still. A man may dislike his master, and may throw down his tools and walk away; but, if a master dislikes *him*, and finds him mischievous or incompetent, the master must ask permission of the Trade-Union to which the man belongs before he can dismiss him! That is really the issue. Again: a master must not employ whom he likes. A workman may be the best in the city, but, if not a member of "the Union," the master is not to employ him *for an hour*. Yet, again; if a particular company or firm has a dispute with its workmen on a subject which concerns the particular firm, and that firm alone, and if the dispute continues in a strike, the employes under all similar companies or firms, however far off, and utterly ignorant though they be of the quarrel, are to strike too. These things do we all see at this moment with open eyes.

BLINDING US.

It was a little cowardly, their mode of procedure. When a strike takes place in the building trade, amongst the colliers, the printers, the bakers, or any other calling, a week's notice is given. Each side then has time for re-consideration, for arbitration, for compromise. But these gas-stokers had no such thought. They conceived a stupendous idea. They would put their hands upon the gas-tap and say, "Now give us our terms, or we'll *put London in the dark!*" This is literally the case. The manager of one of the largest companies came to me on the afternoon of the strike. He was agitated and serious. "I declare," said he, "that I hardly think there is enough in the gas-holders to light a tenth of the lamps in London to-night." Imagine it! "I can't," "You make hands with the men?" "Impossible. They are determined to try and teach us we are nobodies. If we went down on our knees today, and implored the other companies to do the same, they would find a fresh cause of quarrel next week." But the news! No gas in the streets! Our offices lighted by the gloom of the candle, or exposed to the dangers of naphtha and paraffine! 'Twas difficult to believe it. Then for a run upon the oil-shops.

"BROKEN LIGHTS."

We are not absolutely in the dark. This is the fourth night of the strike, and gas is burning above me as I write. But the inconvenience has been great. The large thoroughfares are miserably dull. The gas in the street-lamps and in the shop-windows has been so low that we have not seen each others' faces as we met on the pavements. On the ground floors, and in the basement, the lights unsteadily go out. In the suburbs, all but the leading roads are lighted. The cry is to economise. You can imagine the distress of the families who depend upon gas stoves for their cooking operations or for heat. The weather has become suddenly cold, and we want all the heat we can get. It has a weird, uncanny look, this London, in the dimness of a "gas-strike." Men and women flit by like spectres. The objects in the shops assume all sorts of grotesque shapes. Something like fear disturbs our breasts. The garroter stalks abroad. Policemen are afraid to be out, and hurry along in nervous dread. The Underground Railways are dependent upon the powers of some inflammable spirit, which glares rather than burns. In the large clubs, the beautiful "sunlight" at the top of the dome or the ceilings is so high that the gas rises to it, but beneath are a variety of inconstant lights. In my club, however, we are fairly independent; for, in our library and other large rooms, we have splendid chandeliers of oil lights. Invention has been at work, and in another week we could almost dispense with gas altogether. It may be stated confidently, in short, that the strike has failed.

THE CHILD'S PLAY.

During the Reform agitation, it occurred to the chiefs to hold a great open-air meeting in Trafalgar Square, among the fountains, with the Nelson columns and Landseer's lions looking on. The idea was scouted by the residents in the Strand and the Square; but the site is a splendid one, and the men would not give it up. It was found that the law could not compel them to do so, and consequently every trumpery set of agitators since have made "a procession to Trafalgar Square" part of their programme. These poor stokers have done it. Then there must be flags and a band of music. The stokepeepers who saw them go by, and whose comfort the paucity of gas had so completely disturbed, were furious. It certainly was provoking to hear the notes of the Marseillaise,—which tune, from its adoption by every rag-rag and bob-tail, I have learned to detest,—and to see the silly flags with devices about a ridiculous (Communistic) Republic. But I confess I pity the bulk of the laborers. They are woefully coarse in their speech. Every other word seems to be an oath, and their relaxation is beer-drinking; but one remembers the arduous nature of their work. Who would not be thirsty that underwent the heat of those furnaces? And, in this most unjustifiable strike, they are victimized by a few. One of the speakers at Trafalgar Square was really an orator, but no one could listen to him without feeling that he, and men like him, could make an ignorant multitude perpetrate almost anything. The poor fellows shivered in the freezing wind. To-day I have passed groups standing outside the works of one of the companies, watching the "non-Union" men going in to be hired. They dare not interfere, for the law at least is strict enough as to *that*, and they look so cold, so eagerly anxious, so despairing! The effect of yesterday's oratory has died away. I observe some poor fellows literally shaking with cold—shaking from head to foot. And, on whatever side they turn, they meet with unfriendly looks. Had they succeeded, they would have turned some thousands out of employ. Excepting the extreme fanatics of the Union, the artisans and mechanics of London are against them. Had the masters given way, the reign of Trades-Union terrorism would be a great deal nearer than it is. Success would have delighted the other Union Societies, while men with money would have been afraid to risk a penny in any of the enterprises which give the workingmen the means of employment.

THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

Shall the Great Rebuilding Be Represented?

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Preparations are being made on a vast scale for the great World's Exposition to be opened at Vienna in May next, and every possible effort is being made, both by the officials immediately connected with the Exposition, and their American representatives, to procure the fullest possible representation of the arts, industries, and present state of civilization in the United States. General Thomas E. Van Buren has been appointed United States Commissioner, and is in charge of all the arrangements as far as this country is concerned. Committees have already been formed, representing all sections of the country, to take charge of the several "groups," or departments, of the Exposition. These are twenty-six in number. One of the most important, that of Fine Arts, is represented by two Committees, —one on Painting and Sculpture, and the other on Architecture. Mr. P. B. Wight, of the firm of Carter, Drake & Wight, is the representative of Chicago on the last-named Committee.

In this department Chicago certainly should not fail to be well represented. The achievements of our city in Architecture, during the past year, surpass those of any other spot on the globe, and, though we may not have produced any surpassingly great examples, comparable to those of the great cities of the Old World, the character of our architectural work, in the average, is far above that of any other city in America as well as in Europe. The spectacle of an entire city, miles in extent, being substantially rebuilt in one year, is one that the world has never before seen. It is, in fact, taken as a whole, the architectural event of the century. How this can be represented adequately, has not yet been decided, nor, in fact, can it be easily decided. The time is short. All preparations must be made before the 1st of February. It is possible that, through the medium of photography, some idea of our wonderful progress can be given. A collection of photographs, representing Chicago before the fire, then in ruins, and lastly as she is at the present day, would doubtless be the best means of attaining the end in view. As all contributions are to be returned at the close of the Exposition, such a collection would be of great historical value, and might be preserved in the gallery of our new Public Library, or the Academy of Design. But the preparation of it would require not only time, but money, for as the latter is concerned, it is anticipated that no Congress will make an appropriation to defray the expense of the transportation of all goods to and from Vienna. But this is not even done as yet, and it is hardly to be presumed that the appropriation will cover anything more than the bare expense of transportation and packing. The preparation of models, exhibition, which is not of general interest to communities, must depend upon the contributions of public-spirited individuals, or appropriations by State or City Governments, for defraying the necessary expenses. It has not yet, however, been decided by the National Committee on Architecture what course to follow. Mr. Wight is now in New York, and, while there, will meet the rest of the Committee. The result of their deliberations will be announced on his return, after the 1st of January, when, if it is concluded to make up an American contribution in this department, an opportunity will be given to the citizens of Chicago to assist Mr. Wight in this undertaking, and contribute to the proper representation of the newly-built city. Mr. Wight's office is in Morrison Block, corner of Clark and Madison streets, and he will be glad to confer with all who are interested.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23, 1872.

SANTA CLAUS IN CHICAGO.

A REMINISCENCE OF CHRISTMAS, 1871.

Old Santa Claus sat in his workshop bright,
But the fires were very low;
As he thought of children fleeing in fright,
And each little homeless boy.
He cared not now for his gifts so fair;
For he saw with vision keen,
By the rolling smoke and the terrible glare,
Where the noble city had been.

He thought, too, of homes so fair laid low,
And little, stockingless feet;
Of the darling children, that to and fro
Went up and down the street,
Searching for father and mother dear,
Crying for food and rest,
Longing for shelter, comfort, and cheer,
Within the dear home-nest.

The chimneys were gone, and the stockings too,
And Christmas close at hand;
And how should he send the presents new
To the little homeless band?
Then up he started, and called his steeds
With a merry, loud hallo,
And away he flew as an arrow speeds,
Till his home was lost to view,

And he reached the City of the Plain,
Beside the Inland Sea,
And saw with amaze each freighted train
Filled with supplies so free.
From North and South, from East and West,
He saw the cars come on
All sending that which suited best,
From many a happy home.

He shouted aloud, and wrinkled his brow,
While he shook his head so queer;
"I'll give these children a Christmas now
They'll remember for many a year.
I'll stir the hearts of young and old;
I'll move the children too;
For the wondrous story never was told
Of what the children can do."

His words were true; the project now
Delighted all who heard;
And gaily trustees, many or few,
Were given without a word.
Forgetful of self were these people kind,
Bringing their gleanings cheer;
But never a thought came into their mind
Of the kind old sprite so near,

Who whisked about, now in, now out,
Among his countless toys,
And tied up his parcels, neat and stout,
For the Western girls and boys.
At last the boxes were packed with care,
All freighted deep with love,
With a kindly wish and a secret prayer
That the gifts would welcome prove.

Then Santa Claus started forth again,
But Inspector Ellis' train
And watched by day and night the train,
To guard the precious load,
Until at last, the journey done,
He saw the ladies near;
The name of every homeless one
He whispered in their ear.

"Hurrah for Santa Claus!" we say,
And shout with joyous tone,
For such a merry Christmas-day
The world has never known.

An Opera Ball in Paris.

Paris Correspondence of the New York Mail.

The first grand opera ball is announced for December! Gay Paris is in ecstacies. Arban is to direct 100 musicians; 50,000 people anxiously await the great event; the *cafés* surrounding the Academy are preparing for the approaching orgies; glove-makers, florists, costumers are in jubilation, and even the ladies and gay *garçons* are delighted with the prospects of numerous and princely remunerations, so *allons* clowns, and dominos, sports and grisettes, masks and columbines, chicards and cocottes, don your costumes, masks, and false noses, prepare your chalk and rouge, your pumps and wigs, your wittiest jokes and most winning smiles for the first great, grand, grotesque, glorious rendezvous under the mammoth chandelier of the spacious call-room, where the golden glare of one thousand gas lights, shaded by the crimson velvet of the boxes pours down its floods of sheen upon your eager and expectant faces about a ridiculous (Communistic) Republic. But I confess I pity the bulk of the laborers. They are woefully coarse in their speech. Every other word seems to be an oath, and their relaxation is beer-drinking; but one remembers the arduous nature of their work. Who would not be thirsty that underwent the heat of those furnaces? And, in this most unjustifiable strike, they are victimized by a few. One of the speakers at Trafalgar Square was really an orator, but no one could listen to him without feeling that he, and men like him, could make an ignorant multitude perpetrate almost anything. The poor fellows shivered in the freezing wind. To-day I have passed groups standing outside the works of one of the companies, watching the "non-Union" men going in to be hired. They dare not interfere, for the law at least is strict enough as to *that*, and they look so cold, so eagerly anxious, so despairing! The effect of yesterday's oratory has died away. I observe some poor fellows literally shaking with cold—shaking from head to foot. And, on whatever side they turn, they meet with unfriendly looks. Had they succeeded, they would have turned some thousands out of employ. Excepting the extreme fanatics of the Union, the artisans and mechanics of London are against them. Had the masters given way, the reign of Trades-Union terrorism would be a great deal nearer than it is. Success would have delighted the other Union Societies, while men with money would have been afraid to risk a penny in any of the enterprises which give the workingmen the means of employment.

THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

Shall the Great Rebuilding Be Represented?

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Preparations are being made on a vast scale for the great World's Exposition to be opened at Vienna in May next, and every possible effort is being made, both by the officials immediately connected with the Exposition, and their American representatives, to procure the fullest possible representation of the arts, industries, and present state of civilization in the United States. General Thomas E. Van Buren has been appointed United States Commissioner, and is in charge of all the arrangements as far as this country is concerned. Committees have already been formed, representing all sections of the country, to take charge of the several "groups," or departments, of the Exposition. These are twenty-six in number. One of the most important, that of Fine Arts, is represented by two Committees, —one on Painting and Sculpture, and the other on Architecture. Mr. P. B. Wight, of the firm of Carter, Drake & Wight, is the representative of Chicago on the last-named Committee.

In this department Chicago certainly should not fail to be well represented. The achievements of our city in Architecture, during the past year, surpass those of any other spot on the globe, and, though we may not have produced any surpassingly great examples, comparable to those of the great cities of the Old World, the character of our architectural work, in the average, is far above that of any other city in America as well as in Europe. The spectacle of an entire city, miles in extent, being substantially rebuilt in one year, is one that the world has never before seen. It is, in fact, taken as a whole, the architectural event of the century. How this can be represented adequately, has not yet been decided, nor, in fact, can it be easily decided. The time is short. All preparations must be made before the 1st of February. It is possible that, through the medium of photography, some idea of our wonderful progress can be given. A collection of photographs, representing Chicago before the fire, then in ruins, and lastly as she is at the present day, would doubtless be the best means of attaining the end in view. As all contributions are to be returned at the close of the Exposition, such a collection would be of great historical value, and might be preserved in the gallery of our new Public Library, or the Academy of Design. But the preparation of it would require not only time, but money, for as the latter is concerned, it is anticipated that no Congress will make an appropriation to defray the expense of the transportation of all goods to and from Vienna. But this is not even done as yet, and it is hardly to be presumed that the appropriation will cover anything more than the bare expense of transportation and packing. The preparation of models, exhibition, which is not of general interest to communities, must depend upon the contributions of public-spirited individuals, or appropriations by State or City Governments, for defraying the necessary expenses. It has not yet, however, been decided by the National Committee on Architecture what course to follow. Mr. Wight is now in New York, and, while there, will meet the rest of the Committee. The result of their deliberations will be announced on his return, after the 1st of January, when, if it is concluded to make up an American contribution in this department, an opportunity will be given to the citizens of Chicago to assist Mr. Wight in this undertaking, and contribute to the proper representation of the newly-built city. Mr. Wight's office is in Morrison Block, corner of Clark and Madison streets, and he will be glad to confer with all who are interested.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23, 1872.

SANTA CLAUS IN CHICAGO.

A REMINISCENCE OF CHRISTMAS, 1871.

Old Santa Claus sat in his workshop bright,
But the fires were very low;
As he thought of children fleeing in fright,
And each little homeless boy.
He cared not now for his gifts so fair;
For he saw with vision keen,
By the rolling smoke and the terrible glare,
Where the noble city had been.

He thought, too, of homes so fair laid low,
And little, stockingless feet;
Of the darling children, that to and fro
Went up and down the street,
Searching for father and mother dear,
Crying for food and rest,
Longing for shelter, comfort, and cheer,
Within the dear home-nest.

The chimneys were gone, and the stockings too,
And Christmas close at hand;
And how should he send the presents new
To the little homeless band?
Then up he started, and called his steeds
With a merry, loud hallo,
And away he flew as an arrow speeds,
Till his home was lost to view,

And he reached the City of the Plain,
Beside the Inland Sea,
And saw with amaze each freighted train
Filled with supplies so free.
From North and South, from East and West,
He saw the cars come on
All sending that which suited best,
From many a happy home.

He shouted aloud, and wrinkled his brow,
While he shook his head so queer;
"I'll give these children a Christmas now
They'll remember for many a year.
I'll stir the hearts of young and old;
I'll move the children too;
For the wondrous story never was told
Of what the children can do."

His words were true; the project now
Delighted all who heard;
And gaily trustees, many or few,
Were given without a word.
Forgetful of self were these people kind,
Bringing their gleanings cheer;
But never a thought came into their mind
Of the kind old sprite so near,

Who whisked about, now in, now out,
Among his countless toys,
And tied up his parcels, neat and stout,
For the Western girls and boys.
At last the boxes were packed with care,
All freighted deep with love,
With a kindly wish and a secret prayer
That the gifts would welcome prove.

Then Santa Claus started forth again,
But Inspector Ellis' train
And watched by day and night the train,
To guard the precious load,
Until at last, the journey done,
He saw the ladies near;
The name of every homeless one
He whispered in their ear.

"Hurrah for Santa Claus!" we say,
And shout with joyous tone,
For such a merry Christmas-day
The world has never known.

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Paris Correspondence of the New York Mail.

The first grand opera ball is announced for December! Gay Paris is in ecstacies. Arban is to direct 100 musicians; 50,000 people anxiously await the great event; the *cafés* surrounding the Academy are preparing for the approaching orgies; glove-makers, florists, costumers are in jubilation, and even the ladies and gay *garçons* are delighted with the prospects of numerous and princely remunerations, so *allons* clowns, and dominos, sports and grisettes, masks and columbines, chicards and cocottes, don your costumes, masks, and false noses, prepare your chalk and rouge, your pumps and wigs, your wittiest jokes and most winning smiles for the first great, grand, grotesque, glorious rendezvous under the mammoth chandelier of the spacious call-room, where the golden glare of one thousand gas lights, shaded by the crimson velvet of the boxes pours down its floods of sheen upon your eager and expectant faces about a ridiculous (Communistic) Republic.

HOW I ESCAPED BEING KILLED IN A DUEL.

By Mark Twain.

The only merit I claim for the following narrative is that it is a true story. It has a moral at the end of it, but I claim nothing on that, as it is merely thrown in to curry favor with the religious element.

After I had reported a couple of years on the Virginia City (Nevada) *Daily Enterprise*, they promoted me to be editor-in-chief—and I lasted just a week, by the watch. But I made an uncommonly lively newspaper while I did last, and when I retired I had a duel on my hands, and three horse-whippings promised me. The latter I made no attempt to collect; however, this history concerns only the former. It was the old "flush times" of the silver excitement, when the population was wonderfully wild and mixed; everybody went armed to the teeth, and all slights and insults had to be atoned for with the best article of blood your system could furnish. In the course of my editing I made trouble with a Mr. Lord, editor of a rival paper. He flew up at some little trifle or other that I said about him—I do not remember now what it was. I suppose I called him a thief, or a body-snatcher, or an idiot, or something like that. I was obliged to make the paper readable, and I could not fail in my duty to a whole community of subscribers merely to save the exaggerated sensitiveness of an individual. Mr. Lord was offended, and replied vigorously in his paper. Vigorously means a great deal when it refers to a personal editorial in a frontier newspaper. Duelling was all the fashion among the upper classes in that country, and very few gentlemen would throw away an opportunity of fighting one. To kill a person in a duel caused a man to be over-run with applications for office; to kill two men in the ordinary way. Well, out there, if you abused a man, and that man did not like it, you had to call him out and kill him; otherwise, you would be disgraced. So I challenged Mr. Lord, and I did hope he would not accept; but I knew perfectly well that he would not waive a fight, and so I challenged him in the most violent and implacable manner. And then I sat down and suffered and suffered till the answer came. All our boys—the editors—were in our office, "helping" me in the dismal business, and telling about duels, and discussing the code with a lot of aged ruffians who had had experience in such things, and altogether I never was in a lovelier interval in the matter, which made me unspeakably uncomfortable. The answer came—Mr. Lord declined. Our boys were furious, and so was I—on the surface.

I sent him another challenge, and another and another; and the more he did not want to fight, the bloodier I wrote the notes. But by noon a man's tone changed. He appeared to be waking up. It was becoming apparent that he was going to fight me, after all. I ought to have known how it would be—he was a man who never could be depended upon. Our boys were exultant. I was not, though I tried to be.

It was the time to cool and practice. It was the custom there to fight duels with navy six-shooters at fifteen paces—load and empty till the game for the funeral was secured. We went to a little ravine just outside of town, and borrowed a barn-door for a target—borrowed it of a gentleman who was absent—and we stood this barn-door up, and stood a rail on end about the middle of it to represent Lord, and put a squash on top of the rail to represent his head. He was a very tall, lean creature, the poorest sort of material for a duel—nothing but a line shot could "fetch" him, and even then he might split your bullet. Exaggeration aside, the rail was, of course, a little too thin to represent his body accurately, but the squash was all right. If there was any intellectual difference between the squash and his head, it was in favor of the squash.

Well, I practised and practised at the barn door, and could not hit it; and I practised at the rail, and could not hit that; and I tried hard for the squash, and could not hit the squash. I would have been entirely disheartened, but that occasionally I crippled one of the boys, and that encouraged me to hope.

At last we began to hear pistol-shots near by in the next ravine. We knew what that meant. The other party were out practising, too. Then I was in the last degree distressed; for, of course those people would hear our shots, and they would send spies over the ridge, and the spies would find my barn door without a wound or a scratch, and that would simply be the end of me—for of course that other man would immediately become as a bloodthirsty as I was. Just at this moment a little bird, no larger than a sparrow, flew by, and lit on a sage-bush, about thirty paces away; and my little second, Steve Gillis, who was a matchless marksman with a pistol—much better than I was—snatched out his revolver, and shot the bird's head off! We all ran to pick up the game, and sure enough, just at this moment, some of the other duellists came reconnoitring over the little ridge. They ran to our group to see what the matter was; and when they saw the bird, Lord's second said:

"That was a splendid shot. How far off was it?"

Steve said, with some indifference:

"Oh, no great distance. About thirty paces."

"Thirty paces! Heavens alive, who did it?"

"My man—Twain."

"The mischief he did! Can he do that often?"

"Well—yes. He can do it about—well—about four times out of five."

I knew the little rascal was lying, but I never said anything. I never told him so. He was not of a disposition to invite confidence of that kind. Lord left the matter rest. But it was a comfort to see those people look sick, and see their under-jaws drop, when Steve made these statements. They went off and got Lord, and took him home; and when we got home, half an hour later, there was a note saying that Mr. Lord peremptorily declined to fight.

It was a narrow escape. We found out afterwards that Lord hit *his* mark thirteen times in eighteen shots. If he had put those thirteen bullets through me, it would have narrowed my sphere of usefulness a good deal—would have well nigh closed it, in fact. True, they could have put pegs in the holes, and used me for a hat-rack, but that is a hat-rack to a man who feels he has intellectual powers? I would scorn such a position.

I have written this true incident of my personal history for one purpose, and one purpose only—to warn the youth of the day against the pernicious practice of duelling; and to plead with them for war against it. If the remarks and suggestions I am making can be of any service to Sunday School teachers, and newspapers interested in the moral progress of society, they are liberty to use them, and I shall even be grateful to have them widely disseminated, so that they may do as much good as possible. I was young and foolish when I challenged that gentleman, and I thought it was very fine and very grand to be a duellist, and stand upon the "field of honor." But I am older and more experienced now, and am inflexibly opposed to the dreadful custom. I am glad, indeed, to be enabled to lift up my voice against it. I think it is a bad, immoral thing. I think it is every man's duty to do everything he can to *discourage* duelling. I always do now; I discourage it upon every occasion.

If a man were to challenge me now—now that I can fully appreciate the iniquity of that practice—I would go to that man, and—take him by the hand, and lead him to a quiet, retired room and kill him.

The Little Diplomatic Chap from Russia—His Dealings with the Holy Father.

Washington Despatch to the New York Herald.

Information has been received here that Mr. G. Catacazy, formerly Minister to this country, has got fallen in disgrace with the Czar. Though diplomatic exigencies required that he should be disavowed as a public functionary, he is still in the service of the Russian Government as a secret agent, and his talent for intrigue has lately found a profitable field. Gortschakoff has employed him to carry on negotiations with the Court of Rome, in order to adjust the ecclesiastical difficulties existing between the Pope and the Russian Government with regard to the appointment of Roman Catholic Bishops in Poland. The version of the trouble is as follows: During the Polish revolution of 1863 six Roman Catholic Bishops were deposed by the Russian Government, and transported to Siberia, because they would not submit to the orders of the Russian Government, which interfered with the free exercise of their spiritual authority. After the exile of the Bishops, Russia desired that the Pope should name others to fill the vacant dioceses. The Pope refused, and has ever since maintained that the exiled priests were still the legitimate incumbents of those bishoprics. During an audience with the Pope, the then Russian Envoy used disrespectful language to the Holy Father, who thereupon ordered him to leave the room. The Papal Nuncio was recalled from St. Petersburg, and has never since been replaced. Negotiations have been going on between Rome and Russia, but without result. A few months ago Prince Gortschakoff hit upon the plan of sending Catacazy to Rome, in order to bring about some satisfactory arrangement. In this he has succeeded by obtaining the concessions desired by Russia. The Pope has consented to nominate six new Bishops who were recommended by the Russian Government to fill the vacant dioceses in Poland. Catacazy has obtained all the credit for this diplomatic transaction. It is said that Catacazy is on intimate terms with President Thiers, who supported him throughout the negotiations. Thiers is said to have advised the Pope to comply with the desire of the Russian Government, promising, in return, to give all the assistance in his power to the Holy Father. Catacazy is thus reported to have been instrumental in producing more intimate relations between France and Russia.

MR. PHILIP LEE'S ADVENTURE.

He Dines with the Knickerbockers of the East Side—And is Introduced to Governor Seymour and the Venerable Author of Thanatopsis—Pistols and Bowie-Knives Drawn—The Bloodless Duel.

From the New York Sun, Dec. 21.

Mr. Philip Lee, the husband of Miss Nellson, the actress, is an English gentleman of wealth, refinement, and taste, but with a slight tendency of discernment. Brought up, in a measure, in the London clubs, and becoming a sort of a butterfly in London society, he has been accustomed to gauge American society and customs with his London model.

A few days ago, Mr. E. A. Sothern, the well-known actor, met Mr. Lee in the Manhattan Club Rooms. Slapping him familiarly on the shoulder, he said, "Well, old boy, how do you like the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

"My dear fellow," Mr. Lee responded, "it's a blawsted country. No society, my boy, no society. It may be well enough for you Americans, you know, but for an English gentleman it's a bore."

"Why, Phil!" said Mr. Sothern, "the Americans are good fellows. I suppose you haven't been much in society, and, of course, have had no chance to judge of the people."

"Society, my boys!" said Mr. Lee. "They have no society in this blawsted country! I've been in what they call society here. I visit in Fifth avenue, you know, and upon my soul, they treat me as well as they know how. There's some pretty girls on the avenue, and all that sort of thing, you know. But no society, you know—no society! Why, my dear boy, this place is a bore, a perfect bore! Nothing like London, you know! And the clubs (waving his hand around him), why, demme, what is this to our London clubs?"

"What!" exclaimed Mr. Sothern, "you've only been introduced in Fifth avenue! I don't wonder that you are disgusted with society here. You want to visit on the East Side. You can't see anything of New York society on Fifth avenue."

Mr. Lee was astonished, as well he might be. He had looked on the residents of Fifth avenue as the *crème de la crème* of New York society. He said, "No!"

"Not at all, my dear boy," said Mr. Sothern. "Now, I'll tell you what you do. Come and dine with me to-morrow at 5. I'll introduce you to some of the Knickerbockers, and then you will see how unjust your thoughts have been toward the American people. Will you come?"

"My dear fellow, of course I'll come. I want to take away a good impression of America. But really, you know, I thought Fifth avenue was where all the society people lived."

"Shoddy, my dear boy, all shoddy!" said Sothern. "Come to-morrow, and I'll introduce you to some first-class people. I'll have some good boys there, you may depend on it."

And so the plot was laid. On the following afternoon at 5 o'clock Mr. Lee put in a prompt appearance at an East Side hotel. He was met by Mr. Sothern and William J. Florence, both old personal friends, and conducted by them to the banqueting hall.

The table was spread, and lounging about the room were Neil Bryant, Nelse Seymour, Billy Birch, Chris. Connor, and one or two other well-known sporting characters. All were dressed in a flashy, foppish style, and all were introduced to Mr. Lee by titles which appealed to his English prejudices. Neil Bryant wore an immense circlet of paste diamonds on the bosom of his shirt. They sparkled in the gaslight like genuine stones, and Mr. Lee expressed himself surprised at their brilliancy. He thought that at last he was about to make his entree to the society of the real Knickerbockers of the New World.

The introductions and ordinary salutations having been concluded, the party seated themselves at the table. Mr. Sothern sat at the head as host, and Mr. Florence was at the right hand. On the left of Mr. Sothern sat Neil Bryant, and Mr. Lee was perched in between Bryant and Nelse Seymour. Lee was arrayed in a full-dress suit, with white neck tie and patent leather boots.

The oysters were placed upon the table, while social converse ran nimbly. Neil Bryant took his napkin and tied it over his head in such a manner that only his mouth and chin were visible. Mr. Lee gazed upon him with unfeigned astonishment. Then, before anybody had touched the bivalves before them, Neil raised his plate and deliberately smelt of the oysters. Then he reached over and grasped Nelse Seymour's plate, and smelt of that. He said, looking at Seymour: "Nelse, your oysters are better than mine. Here, you can have these."

Then he deliberately passed his own plate over to Seymour and began eating the oysters which he had taken. Seymour jumped to his feet, apparently trembling with passion. Putting his hand behind him, he drew forth a large bowie knife, which he brandished fiercely at Neil Bryant. He roared out:

"You have insulted us, sir. I will have your life, sir. Had one a particular hair a thousand lives, they would not satisfy my vengeance (laying down the knife and looking at his victim tragically); say one prayer, sir, for your wretched soul."

Mr. Lee looked at the bowie knife and the Knickerbocker who had drawn it. He tried to push his chair back and escape, but it was wedged in tightly between the two Knickerbockers to whom he had but just been introduced. In the mean time Neil Bryant, who had swallowed the oysters, eating them with his fingers, without paying the least attention to what Nelse was saying, sprang to his feet. From the rear pocket of his pantaloons he drew forth a huge navy revolver. Pointing it across the face of the frightened Englishman, at Nelse Seymour, he shouted: "Take back those words, sir, or I will have your blood."

Seymour made a feint with his knife at the head of Bryant. The latter dexterously parried it with his pistol. At this point the whole party arose, and drew knives and pistols, and a clashing and slashing began on all sides. Mr. Lee, to whom this action of the Knickerbockers was totally inexplicable, managed to push his chair back, and edging out, attempted to escape from the room. Nelse Seymour detected him as he was sneaking away, and caught him in his arms. He held him tightly bound between himself and the muzzle of Neil Bryant's pistol, while Bryant continually called out to Lee to get out of the way, and let him shoot the ungentlemanly rascal.

While the company were in this hubbub some one put out the lights. Then arose a series of groans and laughter, above which rang out loud and clear the shouts of Mr. Lee, "Murder! Fire!" He finally succeeded in escaping from his persecutors, and was driven rapidly to the Fifth Avenue.

On Thursday a man visited Justice Dowling and informed him that a duel was to be fought between Mr. Lee and Mr. Sothern. The Justice, on the impulse of the moment, granted a warrant for the arrest of the two gentlemen. Afterward it occurred to Justice Dowling that the process was but a continuation of the practical joke upon Mr. Lee. He therefore destroyed the warrant, and in its place issued subpœnas commanding Edward A. Sothern and William J. Florence to appear before him in the Tombs at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. At that hour the two actors appeared in answer to the summons. They remained in the officers' room until 10½, when Justice Dowling entered and permitted them to go about their business.

It is now understood that Mr. Lee is under the impression that he dined with Horatio Seymour and William Cullen Bryant, and that he is satisfied that one-half the truth has not been told in England concerning the bloodthirsty characteristics of American society.

TEXAN CATTLE.

Their Care and Profit—Interesting Facts About the Trade.

Solomon, Kansas (Dec. 6), Correspondence of the New York Times.

It is often said by our local journalists that "the Texas cattle-trade is dying out," and that "the days of the Texas cattle-trade are over;" but the long-horns cross the Texan border in vast droves, and their owners' pocketbooks grow plethoric in consequence, notwithstanding.

It is conceded, however, that this year has failed in the realization of the usual profits from this trade. The well-known severity of last winter so reduced the cattle which survived, that the spring grass did no more for them than "start them" in taking on flesh enough to cover their bare ribs and wasted joints, and the summer grass was so light that by the end of August they were scarcely in better condition than when the winter began in 1871, and yet it would hardly pay to winter them again, and the consequence was that many lean and inferior cattle have been shipped from Kansas this present season. More power to the muscles and grinders of the restaurant frequenters in Chicago and New York.

Before giving the numbers of exportations I will sum up the cost of a steer 5 years old ready for shipment. There are three grades of saleable Texas cattle, viz., 2-year olds, 3-year olds, and 4-year olds. Yearlings exchange hands some, but there is no demand when 2-year olds can be had. A 2-year old steer is worth from $11 to $14, according to size and condition. It costs on an average about $3 to winter him, though the contract price is $5, and he must be wintered twice, which will carry him into the fifth year, when he takes on flesh most readily, and is considered altogether the most marketable steer offered. The cost in summer is not lessened, it being a mere trifle of herders' labor, and it is generally "lumped" with losses by straying, drowning, and other accidents, which amount to about $2 a head. Here, then, is the cost of a marketable steer, taken at two years: First cost, say, $12; first summer and winter's keep, $5; second summer and winter's keep, $5; third summer's keep, $2—a total of $24 cost. Such a steer is worth about $32 on the ground, or delivered at the cattle-pens at the depot, and this leaves a margin of $8 profit.

A three-year old is worth from $14 to $20, cost of keeping to same age, viz., his fifth year, is $7, making total cost from $21 to $27, and worth about the same as the former. A four-year-old costs at first from $20 to $26, and they are generally wintered, making the cost of their keep $7 till the time of shipment, or from $27 to $33 total cost. But these are heavy cattle, being one year older, and bring about $43 at the cattle pens. It will thus be seen that the profit realized per head is not far from $8 on an average; and yet, of the column of accidents swells to such an extent as to take one-third of the herd, which was the case in the last year pretty generally, this profit will be eaten up entirely, and if the dealer comes out "square" he ought to be thankful, but he ain't; on the contrary, he "causes his luck" and tries again.

The column of "accidents" is the most fruitful source of loss to the dealer, and one main cause for the swelling of this column the past year has been the inadequate shelter from storms. Dealers have trusted to the balmy reputation of the State, but have found to their sorrow the embalming influences of the "norther," as one of its tidal waves rolls over the land. Not withstanding all the difficulties and losses, however, the Texas cattle trade of Kansas makes a good showing this year.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad handled, from Aug. 15 to Nov. 21, 4,610 cars of cattle, of which 3,187 came from Wichita. The cars contain generally 18 head, making a total in these months of 82,980 head shipped by this one road.

The Kansas Pacific Railroad has, perhaps, shipped as many cattle from Ellsworth as were shipped from Wichita, viz., 67,386 head, and from Solomon 10,026 head, and from Abilene the same number, 10,026 head, making a total from these five points of shipment of 167,418 during the three months or over, from Aug. 15 to Nov. 21, representing a cash income of $6,014,650 to to the State, and a net profit of $1,283,344 to the cattle-dealers.

This doesn't look much like a "dying-out" of the trade, when it is remembered that I have taken the shipments of only five points in the State as a basis of calculation.

There are probably 100,000 head more of Texans in the State than went into last winter, but it will be noticed that the shipping points are fast moving to the west and south of Abilene, and the time is not far distant when the long-horns will be thrust out of the State altogether.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A Valuable Medical Treatise.

The edition for 1873 of the standing medical annual known as Hostetter's Almanac is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States and British America, and, indeed, in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. This Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for about one-fifth of a century. It combines, with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, &c., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1873 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh

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TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between State and Dearborn. Engagement of Miss Charlotte Cushman. "Guy Mannering." Afternoon and evening.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. New Comedy Company "The Lancashire Lass." Afternoon and evening.

AIKEN'S THEATRE—Wabash avenue, corner of Congress street. Engagement of Lawrence Barrett. "Julius Cæsar." Afternoon and evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, south of Madison. Engagement of the Carroll Family. New Sensational drama, entitled "Our Mother." Afternoon and evening.

MYERS' OPERA HOUSE—Monroe street, between State and Dearborn. Arlington, Cotton & Kemble's Minstrel and Burlesque Troupe. Afternoon and evening.

GLOBE THEATRE—Dearborn street, between Madison and Washington. The Leon Brothers. "The Union Scout." Afternoon and evening.

NIXON'S AMPHITHEATRE—Clinton street, between Washington and Randolph. Engagement of Zoe. Afternoon and evening.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

ROUGH SKIN MADE SMOOTH by USING JUNIPER TAR SOAP, manufactured by Caswell, Hazard, & Co., New York.

FOR DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, DEPRESSION of Spirits and General Debility, the Ferro Phosphorated Elixir of Calisaya Bark (Calisaya Bark and Iron), is the best remedy. Prepared by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York, and sold by Druggists.

CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR THE BOYS. MARK W. Gates, having purchased the interest of Johnny Cooley in the well-known saloon, No. 39 Clinton-st., opposite Nixon's Amphitheatre, will celebrate his opening, to-day, with a grand dinner, to which he friendly invites all who may participate. The best of liquors will be found in the bar.

HOW UNNECESSARY THE ANGUISH MANY persons undergo from rheumatism, gout, neuralgia, lumbago, and sciatica. We say unnecessary, because the application of Mexican Mustang Liniment to the affected part, or a few drops of it in the ears or nostrils, affords instantaneous, and what is better, permanent relief. For cuts, wounds, bruises, swellings, and all injuries or diseases which require treatment externally, this liniment is everywhere regarded as the most potent and available healing agent in existence. For all external injuries, or ailments of horses and cattle, it is infallible.

THE UNITED STATES WATCH CO. (GILES, Wales & Co.), employ 80 hands in their works, at Marion, N. J., and are turning out 50 of their celebrated timekeepers daily, or one watch per day for each two hands employed; the working time is 10 hours per day, or 600 minutes, producing a fine watch complete every two and a half minutes, and a little more, and even at that rate unable to keep pace with the constantly increasing demand caused by the extraordinary records the watches are making as accurate and reliable timepieces, as the reward of patient and persevering energy and enterprise rewarded by prosperity which we are glad to see.

The Chicago Tribune.

Wednesday Morning, December 25, 1872.

The Signal Service predicts that we will have southerly winds and a rising temperature to-day.

Emancipation of slavery in Porto Rico is not to be a sham. As it is doubtful whether the Spanish Government will adopt the policy of compensatory emancipation, owners of slaves in Porto Rico were making arrangements to sell their chattels to Cuban slaveholders, but this the Spanish Government has forbidden.

The New York *Herald* publishes an official list of stockholders in the Credit Mobilier. It includes Oakes Ames, *Trustee*, 93 shares, with aggregate dividends of $151,935 on said shares, and Charles H. Nellson (son-in-law of James Brooks), 150 shares, with dividends to a corresponding amount.

Some of the overland telegraph lines were built by the aid of the land grants made to the Pacific Railroads. The Government is taking legal advice as to the rights this fact gives it in their ownership, and it is intimated that the opinion of counsel will be, that the Government has a valid claim to control in the lines of the Union Pacific, if not in others.

A Committee of the Directors of the Public Library have issued a request to the citizens of Chicago for holiday gifts of books. Although many works have been contributed, most of them from Europe, the number is still insufficient to enable the Library to be thrown open. The reading-room, as announced before, will be opened New Year's Day.

What is called the Court House Legislature of Alabama has authorized the issue of State bonds for $2,000,000, and has despatched an agent to negotiate their sale at the North. The *Daily Register* of Montgomery, a Democratic paper, warns capitalists against this loan, for the comprehensive reason that the assemblage which ordered it had no legal or official existence, and, worse yet, did not have so much as a quorum to give its action Parliamentary authority over its own members.

Barnum's Museum and Menagerie has been destroyed by fire. This is the third time the Great American Showman has been burned out, and in each case the loss has been total. The distressing feature of these disasters has been the burning of the animals, which become unmanageable before the flames. In the collection destroyed yesterday there were lions, tigers, giraffes, leopards, elephants, a hippopotamus, camels, and many less valuable animals, all of which were burned to death, except two elephants and a camel.

Boston is jubilant over the prospect of the early completion of the Hoosac Tunnel, which is now set down for the year 1874. The wonderful precision that has been attained in civil engineering is illustrated by the recent junction effected between two sections of this gigantic work. At a distance of 274 miles, it was found that the total error was a variation of only five-sixteenths of an inch laterally and 1¾ inches in level. To appreciate the accuracy of this work, it must be known that the labor has been performed in darkness and danger, amid falling rocks and suffocating smoke, and that it has been pursued incessantly for several years.

The facts in relation to the suppression of the New Orleans *Times* by Judge Durell have not yet reached us. The telegraph report said that it was a step in the course of some proceedings in bankruptcy. The New York *Herald* says that it was suppressed "on a trumped-up charge of fraud involving fifteen hundred dollars, for which four times the amount was offered as security, while a hundred times the amount would have been forthcoming if necessary. The *Times* had been the foremost newspaper in New Orleans in opposing Judge Durell's outrageous violation of law and decency in interfering with the election of the State officers and Legislature.

The present bitterly cold snap has had no parallel in Chicago since the 1st of January, 1864. On that morning, a furious wind and snow storm prepailed, and the thermometer dropped to 30 below zero during the forenoon. The streets were almost entirely deserted of man and beast. No New Year's calls were made, and the few who ventured out of doors soon repented it, and paid for their temerity with frozen ears and noses. The thermometer yesterday morning in some places marked as low as 20 below zero; but, fortunately for comfort, the wind was comparatively light. Had such a gale and storm prevailed as accompanied the cold spell eight years ago, it would have resulted in virtually suspending both travel and business. The prospects are now that the cold will last with varying degrees of intensity until New Year's, and then we may expect the regulation January thaw.

The sum of $550,000 has been paid for 51 shares of the New York *Tribune* Association. This would make the entire value of the property $1,100,000, which, the *Tribune* says, is "by far the highest price ever paid for a newspaper on this continent." This is not exactly correct. Shares in THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE were sold, before the fire, at the same price relatively, that is, on the basis of $1,100,000 for the whole. After the fire, when $300,000 of the tangible property of the establishment had be an destroyed without insurance, sales were made on the basis of $900,000. The New York *Herald* could not, probably, be bought for $2,000,000, if it were for sale at all. The New York *Evening Post* is believed to be worth over a million dollars, and the *Journal of Commerce* even more than the *Post*, and the Philadelphia *Ledger* more than either. The St. Louis *Democrat* sold recently on the basis of about $600,000,—a ridiculously low price, as the sellers, Messrs. McKee & Houser, have since admitted to themselves.

The Chicago produce markets were very quiet yesterday, except wheat. Mess pork was dull and 5@10c per brl lower, at $11.50@11,60 cash, and $11.75@11.80 seller March. Lard was quiet and easier at $6.95@7.00 per 100 lbs, cash, and $7.25@7.30 seller March. Meats were quiet and unchanged, at 8¾c for shoulders, 5¾c for short ribs, 5¾c for short clear, and 7½@7¾c for green hams. Dressed hogs were dull and unchanged, at $4.25@4.80 for 100 lbs. Highwines were active and ½c higher, closing at 89½c per gallon. Flour was quiet and steady. Wheat was active and irregular, advancing 1¾c, but closed easier at $1.18¾c cash, and $1.19 seller January. Corn was dull and unchanged, closing at 30¼c cash, and 30¾c seller January. Oats were ¼c higher, but very quiet, closing at 24½c cash or seller January. Rye was active and 1¾c higher, closing at 69½c. Barley was in better demand, and closed firm at 65c for No. 2, and 56c for No. 3. The live hog market was dull and weak at the reduction noted yesterday, or at $3.50@3.75. Cattle and sheep were in limited request only, and sold slowly at former rates. The following were the stocks of grain in store in this city on Saturday evening last: 931,213 bu wheat, 1,214,882 bu corn, 762,147 bu oats, 185,716 bu rye, 271,640 bu barley.

If, according to the Swedenborgian ideas as interpreted by Miss Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Diogenes is still going about in the mysterious realms of ether, with a lantern in his hand looking for an honest man, he may as well give up his search. Diogenes' avocation is gone, for the honest man is found. His name is Case, and he lives in North Canton, Conn. He might have gone through the world unheralded and unknown had it not been for a brother who died, leaving a will by which he bequeathed to the said honest man $150,000 worth of property, appointing him sole executor. Instead of placidly accepting this legacy in the same brotherly spirit in which it had been bequeathed, the honest man went to work overhauling the papers of his deceased relative, and found a later will, by which the property was divided among various relatives, churches, and charitable enterprises. Not content with finding a document that cut him off with a mere stipend, this honest Case published this discovery and entered the new will in probate. As a matter of course, Case was poor. It would be a pretty justification of the old proverb that "honesty is the best policy" to have shown that Case was amply rewarded for his integrity by bushels of greenbacks, which were the accumulation of a series of honest acts such as he is credited with in his brother's will. Unfortunately, such is not the fact. There are wicked people who will hold that Case is an escaped lunatic, and that he cannot be returned to a strait-jacket any too soon. There may be unbelievers, too, who will say that Case is too careful a man, and that the later will might have been exposed to the dangers of fire. As it is, Case stands alone,—a poor *Case*, but not a hard Case,—a model for honest heirs in novels with a moral.

The Automatic Telegraph Company have now a line in working order between New York, Philadelphia, and Washington. The automatic process is so much more rapid that one machine and one operator can do the work of two machines and two operators, with two distinct lines, under the Morse process. The message is first written out by a machine, in an incredibly short time, in characters, which consist of perforations in a strip of paper. It requires but one movement of the hand, touching a certain key, to make each letter, while, under the old process of dots and dashes, several movements of the operator's wrist are often required for the formation of one letter. After the message is transcribed in perforations, the slip of paper containing it is placed on a roller worked by a wheel; and, as it is turned, a pen passes over it, making the circle complete at each perforation. A similar pen receives the message at the other end, which is then passed through a printing machine, and a copy is obtained by a much more rapid process than it could be written out by the operator taking it from the wires. As an indication of the rapidity of the new process of telegraphing, a message was sent from Washington to Philadelphia, and repeated back, all within the space of two minutes, the process of perforation for fifteen words requiring only fifteen seconds. The projectors of this new system of telegraphing are perfectly sanguine of success. It is a matter in which they will have the best wishes of the public, for it will reduce the expense and rates of telegraphing. Already, the Company has fixed a tariff between New York and Washington, by which they send messages of twenty words for the same price that is charged for ten words under the old system. The Western Union Telegraph Company, however, make light of the invention, and contend that, although transmission by the new process is more rapid than by the Morse instrument, the work of perforation and transmission together is slower, so that on the whole it possesses no advantages over the Morse process.

CHRISTMAS.

For the twenty-seventh time, THE TRIBUNE has the pleasure of wishing all its readers, big and little, rich and poor, a Merry Christmas, and of expressing the hope that the Christmas tree in each house is well loaded with gifts, and that upon each table, this noon, there will be a smoking-hot goose, a pudding well stuffed with plums, and plenty of good old ale. For the twenty-seventh time, also, it bespeaks a bounteous Christmas charity for the poor, to whom this day is specially sacred by virtue of the memory of the birth of our Lord, whose father, the carpenter, was likewise poor; and rejoices that the world is one year nearer that time when all the nations shall repeat the song of the angels, which the shepherds heard on the Bothlehem Plain—"Glory to God in the Highest; on earth, peace and good will to men."

There is a very pleasant custom among the young people of hanging up the stocking on Christmas Eve, and an equally pleasant belief that during the night, while they are sleeping, Santa Claus drives his team of reindeers athwart the housetop, and, tethering them to the chimney, descends with well-laden pouch and fills them full of Christmas gifts. And while the children this morning are examining their stockings, it may be both pleasant and profitable for us, who are elder than they and have outgrown the quaint old Norwegian legend, to look into the metaphorical stocking, and see what it contains this Christmas morning of the year of grace and of our Blessed Lord, 1872. The gifts with which the stocking of Chicago is filled are numerous and various, and may be classified as follows:

Item—A new city which has sprung up like magic out of the ruins of the old, with a complete outfit of magnificent stores and warehouses, with its railroad communications in perfect order, its commercial machinery running smoothly, its schools and churches in operation again, and room enough for every man to do business. Last Christmas, we had 2,600 acres of battered brick and stone, twisted iron and jagged walls, the embers of the October calamity, in our stocking.

Item—A large assortment of thermometers, marking from 15 to 25 below zero, according to their ability to do justice to the subject. As incidental to this low mercurial habit, plenty of burst water-pipes, exploded ranges and stoves, demoralized kitchen help, and hilarious plumbers.

Item—A collection of tax-bills of divers sums and sorts, peculiarly adapted to produce a feeling of cheerfulness upon the part of those who have to pay them, and a doubt whether it would not be better and more economical to turn in the property at once and take a receipt.

Item—A tight money market and a generous supply of notes in bank, and a fine opportunity to study the question how not to pay them.

Item—A good ice crop for next year's juleps and creams.

Item—Plenty of fat beef and mutton, convalescent horses, and one-horse cars.

Item—Coal at $12 per ton, and coal-dealers who agree to deliver and never do so.

Item—Plenty of good and cheap gas, of different kinds.

Item—Some abatement in the Bridgeport stink.

Item—Better acting at the theatres at higher rates of admission, and a whole week without an amateur concert.

Item—An increase of marriages, and a proportionate increase of divorces, showing how beautifully Nature always establishes an equilibrium.

Item—Quails, neck-tie sociables, fluting-irons, Congressman Snapp and the shirt of Nemesis, hay in the horse-cars, copper boilers, iced sidewalks without ashes, Shrewsbury oysters, no beer Sundays, Theodore Thomas in February, Lucas in May, county taxes in December, South Park assessments in January, buffalo steaks, roast goose to-day, and dyspepsia to-morrow.

For these and numerous other Christmas blessings in our stockings, this morning, let us be duly thankful and ever devoutly pray. If we find it difficult adequately to express our gratitude for all these gifts, let us make good the deficit by remembering those whose stockings are empty. In this bitter cold, there is more suffering than we can ever know, in the hovels of the poor. By so much as we make the fire burn more brightly on their hearths, and add to their comfort in table and store, shall we find our sins of omission and commission shortened on the Final Day. Remembering that He whose birth we celebrate to-day was born in a manger, let us also remember all the poor, to whom this day belongs, and make their Christmas a merry one. In every home where it goes, THE TRIBUNE bespeaks a merry Christmas dinner and a fat Christmas goose; a merry Christmas tree loaded with Christmas gifts; merry young faces and old; a merry day filled with good wishes which shall all be fulfilled; and a merry night of good Christmas music, and wassail, and cheer. And once more, "Glory to God in the Highest; on earth, peace and good will to men," as the angels sang, while the glory of the Lord shone all around. For Christmas comes but once a year, and after Christmas the sun begins to rise higher in the heavens.

THE NEW STATE HOUSE.

We have received a copy of the report made to the Governor by Messrs. Jacob Bunn, John T. Stuart, and James H. Beveridge, the State House Commissioners, on the 19th inst., accompanied by a report submitted to them by Messrs. Cochrane and Piquenard, the architects. These reports indicate that much better work has been accomplished during the last year than at any time since the beginning of the new State House. It is gratifying to note that the construction, thus far, has kept within the limits of the estimate; and it is promised explicitly that the entire work shall not exceed the amount fixed for it by the new Constitution. There have been three acts in regard to the new State House. The first was passed on Feb. 25, 1867, and appropriated $450,000 from the State Treasury, and $200,000 from the sale of the old State House. The second, passed March 11, 1869, made an additional appropriation of $650,000, reduced the number of Commissioners from seven to three, placed their appointment in the hands of the Governor, and limited the entire cost of the building to $3,000,000 in addition to what had already been expended. This act also provided for a Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, to whom estimates for the whole work should be submitted before proceeding any further. The plans and specifications on which this estimate was made brought it up to $3,681,040, or $81,040 in excess of the limit prescribed. It was concluded, however, that certain modifications could be made which would bring the cost of the structure within $3,000,000, without materially detracting from its general appearance or stability, and the plans were approved Aug. 26, 1869. It was not until after the following winter, however, that work could begin in earnest. The foundation was completed in September, 1869, and the basement story, including the iron beams for the floor above, was finished early in 1871. The General Assembly made a third appropriation in June, 1871, of $650,000, making a total of $1,700,000 available funds which have been voted for the enterprise. In the accompanying report of the architects there is a statement of expenditures, as follows:

Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1867..	$ 6,588.72
Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1868..	322,760.70
Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1869..	197,380.23
Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1870..	278,849.43
Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1871..	409,561.42
Expenditure for year ending Nov. 30, 1872..	383,692.31
Total expenditure	$1,597,456.81

The amount thus expended has brought the State House to this condition: Three-fifths of the walls are now complete and ready for the roof; the stone required for the completion of the outer walls is paid for and ready for shipment from the Penitentiary, and the greater part of it could have been in the walls by this time, if there had been sufficient money on hand to do the work; it will require nearly two years to prepare the State House for occupancy by the State officers and Legislature, and four years for its entire occupancy. To this end, the Commissioners ask an appropriation of $1,000,000 for the years 1873 and 1874. They say that the appropriations already made will be exhausted before the meeting of the next General Assembly. Under the law, the Commissioners must have their appropriations before continuing the work. It will require several months to construct the iron frame-work for the roof, which cannot even be ordered until the necessary appropriation shall have been made. Hence, the Commissioners urge the necessity for fixing the appropriation as early as possible after the convening of the Legislature. "With no interest separate from that of the people of the State," they say to the Governor, "and with no desire but to carry out the will of the people as expressed through their Representatives, we present this matter, asking that you make such recommendations to the General Assembly as your judgment may dictate."

From the details of the report, we discover that many changes for the better have been made, as the work has progressed. Most of the contracts having been made prior to the advance in wages and the cost of building material, caused largely by the Chicago fire, it has been found feasible to introduce these improvements without going beyond the limit fixed by law, or exceeding the estimates which were approved. The roof, galleries, and many of the ceilings are to be constructed of iron, the architects holding that the Chicago fire demonstrated the superiority of iron over brick arches. Finding that the work of the basement-story had been done under the estimated cost, the decorations of the building will be more elaborate than was at first proposed. The columns and wainscoting of the upper part of the rotunda will be of granite, instead of iron, as will the columns and arcades around the grand staircase. The architects recommend a group of statuary for the front pediment, representing the advance of the State from barbarism to the present point of civilization, and also *bas reliefs* for a large frieze inside the rotunda, representing the most important points of the State history from its colonization to the present time,—these to take the place of frescoing. According to the estimates, the architects might have expended the sum of $1,343,928 on the work done thus far. They have actually expended, however, only $1,278,480, which includes values equal to those represented by the authorized sum stated. "In fact," say the architects," as soon as we have found that we could afford, without exceeding the estimate, to do better, stronger, and finer work, without any regard as to the extra labor it may give us, we have changed all the drawings, and made them anew to suit the better class of work."

The report is certainly as favorable as any one could have anticipated. The most general good feeling seems to have prevailed among Commissioners, architects, superintendents, and contractors. And the work appears to have been of so much better character than that which inaugurated the construction of the new State House, that there is reason for congratulating both those who have been engaged in the work and the people at large.

THE LOUISIANA COMMITTEE'S ADDRESS.

The address of the Louisiana Committee cannot fail to command public attention. The persons composing it are not office-holders nor office-seekers; they are not members of any party; they are not political or personal friends of Warmoth, or Kellogg, or Pinchback. They are citizens of Louisiana, anxious for the establishment of peace and order, and honest and responsible Government. They represent that, during the last four years, the State Government has been marked by extravagance, prodigality, dishonesty, and waste in the public expenditures. The public debt has been enormously increased; the State credit has been given to speculating corporations for dishonest aims, and the taxes have been so increased that they may be called rents paid by the proprietors for the use and occupancy of their property. The State needs an honest and responsible Government, and not one to enrich rascals or to perpetuate their power; and to secure this end was the purpose of the union of men of all parties at the late election in favor of Mr. McEnery for Governor. That election has been overturned by the Judge of the United States Court, and the proceedings which have taken place have no parallel in the history of this country. There is no law which gives the United States Courts jurisdiction over suits brought by one citizen against another citizen of the same State. The act of 1870 provides that, when a person claiming to have been elected to an office has been defeated because of the rejection of votes on account of color of the voters, the United States Court may hear and determine the fact in a suit to recover the office. But this law expressly prohibits any jurisdiction or any inquiry by a Federal Court in any case where the office claimed is a Presidential Elector, member of Congress, or member of the State Legislature. Judge Durell, however, took jurisdiction, and, by an order in chancery, upon an *ex-parte* statement, declared who was elected to the Legislature,—prohibiting any other persons, claiming to be members, from meeting—directed the Marshal to use troops to seize the State House; to seat one Legislature and exclude the other, and to enforce the orders of the Legislature thus constituted by him. One branch of the Legislature then presented articles of impeachment against the Governor, and, pending the trial, it declared the Governor suspended. It also declared Pinchback Lieutenant Governor,—an office to which he had never been elected, and to which the Legislature had no authority to appoint any person. Having made him Lieutenant Governor, it then declared him Acting Governor of the State. Having thus deposed the Executive, and placed in the office of Governor a man of their own, they then proceeded to reform their own body. They expelled several members who objected to the revolutionary proceedings; they declared the seats of absentees vacant, and admitted to membership other persons to the places thus vacated who never claimed to have been elected. Thus Judge Durell, by his usurpation of the power to decree by chancery order who should constitute the State Legislature, has created a body that has in turn usurped all the other branches of the Government. In all cases where the Judges of the State Courts were considered as unfriendly to this usurpation, they have abolished the courts, and have established new ones officered by their own friends.

Nor has Judge Durell's chancery order stopped here. It reaches to the new State officers whose terms begin on the first of January next. He has prohibited the Governor-elect from attempting to enter upon the duties of his office; has instructed the United States Marshal to use force to place in office the men who were notoriously rejected by the people. In fact he has, by the mere indorsement upon a petition in chancery, destroyed the existing State Government, has erected a Legislature of his own, and has decreed a new Government to succeed the present one after the first of January.

Now comes the last act of this judicial fungicy, which, if correctly stated, equals anything in the usurpation line yet enacted. The New Orleans *Times* has with great fearlessness discussed all these matters, and denounced Judge Durell in fitting terms. A demand of some kind for $1,500 was made against the proprietors of that paper, which they refused to pay, whereupon the claiming creditor charged the concern with bankruptcy, and applied to Judge Durell for the usual orders in such cases. The proprietors of the paper, denying the allegation of bankruptcy, tendered security for the amount claimed, but Judge Durell, rejecting all defences, and declining any inquiry into the important fact whether the concern was bankrupt or not, appointed an assignee to take possession of the property and *to stop the publication thereof!* To stop the publication of a newspaper is to destroy the value of the property. If this is a statement of the case (and it is the only one that has yet reached us), then this latest act of Durell is something exceeding in infamy all his preceding acts. The disguise of an order in bankruptcy is entirely too thin to hide the real purpose. In the darkest hour of the civil war, Mr. Lincoln would not permit the suppression of newspapers, even when ordered by department commanders, and we question whether there is on record another instance, since the days of the sedition laws of the elder Adams, when a Court has undertaken to stop the publication of a newspaper except for indecency or violation of public morals, in pursuance of law.

Is there no relief and no remedy for such proceedings? Are personal rights, and public rights, and the rights of property all at the mercy of an irresponsible and tyrannical Court, and subject to the decree of a single Judge, without a hearing, without a trial, and upon the *ex-parte* statement of any person who may combine with him? This is a matter which addresses itself to no particular party. If it be allowable in Louisiana, it may be repeated in any other State. It may be repeated in Pennsylvania, or Illinois, or Wisconsin, or anywhere else, when a Judge of the United States Court can be found who will imitate Durell, and, like him, take a jurisdiction and exercise an authority regardless of law. Are the partisans of the Administration in Congress so paralyzed and subjugated that they dare not speak when acts are being committed that threaten their own liberties?

Mr. George P. Putnam, who fell dead in his store in New York last Friday, was associated with the first publication of some of the best books in American literature. Among the standard works which have borne his imprint are the writings of Fenimore Cooper, Edgar A. Poe, Washington Irving, and Bayard Taylor. He was the first American; too, who began the importation of English books on a scale commensurate with the demands of the American reading public. The periodical which he established under the name of *Putnam's Magazine*, with the assistance of George William Curtis, was for years the leading feature of American periodical literature, and did excellent service in enlisting the public in the, enjoyments of current literature. Mr. Putnam was an ideal of the better class of publishers,—a counsellor and a friend of the literary men, as well as their printer. He was himself possessed of high qualifications as a writer and critic. While in England, many years ago, he published a book entitled "American Facts," which did much in the way of removing false impressions and diffusing correct information regarding this country. He was the compiler of a work entitled "The World's Progress; or, Dictionary of Dates," which, shortly before his death, he had revised and brought down to the present day. His recollections of literary men were among the pleasantest, as his associations with them were always intimate and cordial. In fact, Mr. Putnam was too genial and open-hearted for his own success in a worldly sense, but his purity of life, and the respect which he commanded in literary circles, may have been dearer to him than the greater profits that have been earned by other publishers. He leaves a daughter who has inherited a talent for literature, and who has even extended her studies into the medical science, in which she has earned distinctions seldom accorded to her sex.

NOTES AND OPINION.

The Presidency of the Illinois Senate will become the second place of honor and succession, when the arrangements with Oglesby and Beveridge are fulfilled; and there is, therefore, much interest in the selection of a presiding officer upon whom may devolve the duties of Governor. The candidates are: John Early, of Rockford; John H. Yager, of Alton; John C. Short, of Danville; James G. Strong, of Dwight; and George W. Burns, of Quincy.

—The new apportionment of seats, in the Indiana Legislature, tested by the vote for Governor, in October last, gives this result: 185,000 voters have 30 seats in the Senate and 59 in the House; 185,000 voters have 20 in the Senate and 41 in the House.

—The declared majorities for the Republican nominees in Florida are: Governor, Ossian B. Hart, 1,589; Lieutenant Governor, Marcellus L. Stearns, 1,656; Congress—Josiah T. Walls, 1,622; W. J. Purman, 1,726. The Republicans count 2 majority in the Senate, and 5 in the House. To accomplish this result, returns were rejected or amended to suit the "emergency."

—John T. Wait, of Norwich, will be a candidate for Governor in the Republican Convention of Connecticut.

—James F. Dever, Collector of Internal Revenue at Atlanta, Ga., and late candidate for Congress, is reported a defaulter in the paltry sum of $12,874.46. He had been using public moneys for private purposes; and, worse than all, had been defrauding other fellows in office.

—It has been telegraphed from Washington that several persons are setting up a little game on the Winnebago Chief, in Pennsylvania; but the Harrisburg *State Journal* of the 20th says:

General Cameron has no known publicly announced rival for the United States Senate, and most likely the field will be clear to him when the time for re-election arrives.

—General Simon G. Griffin, of Keene, N. H., is quite likely to be nominated as the Republican candidate for Congress in the Third District, where he was beaten by 127 votes two years ago.

—The Albany *Evening Journal* has probably heard by this time how the thing works in Alabama; but on the 21st it said:

The real disposition of the Administration was shown in this case. The conflict did not proceed to the same extreme as in Louisiana, and there was not the same public and legal requirement of decisive action. In Louisiana, it became a question of peace or violence, and the Administration proceeded as the law required. There was a formal call for its protection, under the Constitutional provision, and it responded, as it was bound to do. But in Alabama there had been no judicial determination of the difficulty. There were simply two bodies claiming to be the Legislature. Both appealed to the Administration, and it responded with the suggestion of a compromise which opened the way [?] to an honorable settlement.

—The death of two persons in the station-houses of this city under circumstances that imply gross neglect, if not actual maltreatment, might, at any time, excite inquiry. But it is particularly important now, when under laws ostensibly directed against Southern Ku-Klux, respectable citizens are seized and imprisoned in these station-houses, by Special Deputy Marshals, selected from the refuse of mankind, for service on election day. This happened in the October election in this city, and though, after the polls were closed, the kidnapped citizens were set at liberty, it enhances our objection to the system that it is subject to such abuses as are now discovered.—*Philadelphia Age.*

While President Grant is denying at Washington any intention or desire to tyrannize over the people of Louisiana, or to interfere with the free government of the State, the Federal authorities in New Orleans are committing outrages to which no people with a spark of manhood in their breasts can patiently submit. The State Government overthrown, State Courts abolished, or the rightful Judges driven by force from the Bench, and now the suppression of the independent press, are the outrages that mark the progressive steps of this infamous violation of the Constitution and laws.—*New York Herald.*

PERSONAL.

Senator T. W. Ferry, of Michigan, is at the Tremont.

Colonel William Long, of Iowa, was at the Tremont yesterday.

General James D. McBride, Washington, D.C., is at the Gardner.

H. W. Ireland, Esq., of Montreal, is at the Gardner.

Hon. M. V. Bell, Detroit, was at the Tremont yesterday.

Captain J. W. Cuyler, United States Army, is at the Sherman.

Edmund Yates, Esq., of London, England, was at the Gardner yesterday.

Hon. Daniel G. Fort, Oswego, N. Y., was at the Gardner yesterday.

Miss Viola Pomeroy, a San Fradcisco cantatrice of much celebrity, is spending a few days in Chicago.

Mrs. and Mrs. O. M. Harris, of Nos. 312 and 314 West Washington street, were, last evening, presented by a number of their friends with an elegant silver water-service.

Giles, Brother & Co. gave their employes a handsome Christmas supper at the Tremont yesterday evening. The table was spread with the choicest eatables, and a general good time was indulged in.

The following were at Anderson's European Hotel yesterday: C. G. Kellogg, Princeton, Ill.; B. S. Branard, Cedar Rapids; O. A. Smith, St. Louis; E. J. Scofield, New York; J. D. Kelly, Champaign; J. W. Porter, Urbana; Henry Snyder, Indiana.

The following were at the Tremont yesterday: D. V. Bell, Detroit; E. D. Fisher, Texas; V. R. Bacon, Kansas City; S. E. Scott; T. B. Faber, New York; G. D. Swing, Washington, D. C.; E. Everett, Buffalo; F. J. Mead, Natchez, Miss.; J. R. Mayfoot, Darlington, Conn.

The following were at the Sherman yesterday: E. Campbell, Iowa; F. A. Clark, Denver; H. M. Clark, Pittsburgh; G. M. Anthony, New York; J. Andrews, Cincinnati; George Thurston, Newark, N. J.; Geo. B. Livingston, Albany; Chas. J. Thomas, Buffalo; C. B. Davis, Hartford, Conn.; T. V. Pollock, Monigomery, Ala.

The following were at the Brigge yesterday: John Means, Jr., Boston; C. H. Hurlett, Kansas; George Blaine and family, Louisana, Mo.; S. Graham, New York; G. D. Reynolds and family, Parsons, Kansas; L. J. Hawks, Bloomington; W. C. Mac and wife, Gridley, Ill.; J. H. Province, Quincy, Ill.; H. S. Cole, Pautucket, R. I.

According to an annual custom, which Tom Corwy appears unable to forget, he presented to the boys in the morning newspaper offices a demijohn of his excellent egg-nog, for which he has the thanks of the boys. For a similar evidence of regard in the shape of champagne, Messrs. T. Kendricks & Co., of the Central European Hotel, have our acknowledgments.

The following were among the arrivals at the Gardner yesterday: J. Littleton, Peoria; H. W. Ireland, Montreal; M. G. Austin, Kalamazoo; C. F. Waterbury, Cleveland; John Bullem, Jr., New York; J. M. Echfeldt, San Francisco; F. C. Moore, Quincy; D. Nelson, Iowa; George M. Darnell, Lexington, Ky.; W. H. Aldrich, Boston.

Mr. Harry Scovel, the veteran news editor of THE TRIBUNE, was seized by his editorial associates, yesterday, and presented with an elegant gold snuff-box as a Christmas gift. There was very little said on either side. The donors referred to the many enjoyable sneezes to which the contents of Harry's ancient box had given rise, and hoped that they would be accorded the privilege of taking many friendly pinches out of the old one. Mr. Scovel replied by passing around his accumulation of Maccaboy.

Professor J. C. Webster and lady entertained their friends from Chicago and vicinity at their residence in Wheaton on Monday evening, the occasion being the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding. The affair was very pleasant, and a large number of friends assembled. There was a presentation of appropriate gifts, and speeches by Messrs. Claflin, Pierce, and others, to which the usual happy responses were made.

Mr. Thomas D. Snyder, of the firm of Snyder & Lee, real estate agents, being about to depart from the independent life of a bachelor, gave a farewell supper to his bachelor companions recently. A merry two hours were spent, nothing occurring to detract from the festivities of the evening, except the regrets experienced by the "old gentlemen" present that they could not enter into the life Mr. Snyder will soon enjoy.

A very handsome Christmas gift was presented by the employes of Field, Leiter & Co.'s retail dry-goods house, corner of Market and Madison streets, to their gentlemanly and obliging superintendent, Mr. J. M. Fleming, last evening, consisting of a gold watch and chain bought at the jewelry store of Messrs. Rossberg & Falch, corner of Madison and State streets, in testimony of his merits as an occupant of the trying position between employer and employed, and in willing acknowledgment of the justice, firmness, and moderation of his management. The recipient was very appropriately addressed by Mr. N. J. David.

Br. Ben C. Miller, Superintendent of Public Charities, got a Christmas present yesterday from Miss Ettie Bennett, who gave herself to him in the holy bonds of matrimony. The ceremony took place at the residence of the bride's parents, No. 116 Cottage Grove avenue, and was a quiet and select performance. There were no cards. The happy pair left in the evening on their bridal tour. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Miller will wish them good luck on their matrimonial voyage.

AMUSEMENTS.

McVICKER'S THEATRE.

The effect of an improved state of temperature was observable in the increased attendance at McVicker's last evening, though Christmas Eve is one of the home nights of the year. Concerning the *Mey Merrilies* of Charlotte Cushman there is, and can be, but one verdict. Columns and volumes might be written analytical and explanatory of the unanimous finding, showing, at great length, wherein and why it is so, but the end of all is that it is great, and that it is one of the few things on the stage at the present time which can be truly called great. To those who now see Miss Cushman act for the first time, her *Meg Merrilies* appears a creation almost superhuman, while those who remember the renowned *tragedienne* as she was twenty years ago, are none the less struck by the wonderfully vital genius which has withstood the ravages of time. That there should be no perceptible evidence of weakness in tone or physique in an actress now more than three-score years of age, excites wonder in the minds of all beholders, the more so that they have expected to see the decadence, not the fulness, of power. Nobody is called upon to make allowances; on the contrary, those whose memory enables them to make the comparison bear witness that the *role* is enacted to-day with a vigor and force even beyond that which characterized her former efforts. It has been urged as an argument against the "star" system in theatres, that the presence of a great and shining light serves to eclipse the lesser luminaries, causing them to appear duller than they really are. Whatever the cause may be—and it

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minaries, causing them to appear duller than
y really are. Whatever the cause may be—
d it may be doubted whether it is cor-
ctly stated above—Miss Cushman's support by
e members of McVicker's company in "Guy
annering" is decidedly tame and inferior.
ere is not a one-average strong characterization
the lot. This estimate is not the effect of
mparison with Miss Cushman's magnificent
personation; it arises from actual shortcom-
s. Why Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Myers, ordi-
rily so sprightly and pleasing, should saunter
rough their assignments with so little effort to
justice to them, does not clearly appear, but
certain that they are open to such comment.
. O'Neill, as *Dandie Dinmont*, notably fails
conveying anything like an adequate idea of
droll and brawny Scot. He does not make
the character distinctively, and he overdoes
drunkenness. *Dandie* was only a little con-
ed in the head by his potations; he was
staggering, blind drunk. The omission
dialect deprives the part of much of its
ength, but it is better omitted than
ly attempted. The chief difficulty
h Mr. Lanagan's *Dominie Sampson*, consists
the fact that so much is seen of the former,
so little of the latter. Greater distinctness
utterance—not a louder tone of voice—would
an improvement. Mr. Powers as
ry Bertram, and Mr. Barron as *Colonel
nnering*, both furnish shining examples of
er zeal to act. That Mr. Blake is not a good
ger is due to a voice which refuses to be vil-
ous, and that Mr. Pendleton is not a success-
Dirck Hatteriek is owing to precisely the op-
site reason. Extra attention has been be-
wed upon the musical features of the play
h an extremely creditable result. The
oruses are nicely executed, and the lullaby
g by Mrs. Myers is given with admirable feel-
g and expression. The subsequent rendering
the same song by Miss Cushman is a surprise
those who have supposed that ballad singing
as not among her accomplishments. "Guy
annering" will be given at the Christmas mat-
ee to-day and evening, and the remainder of
e week.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Carroll Family, in a play called "Our
ddies" are drawing fair houses at the Acad-
y of Music. The play is of the made-to-order
ss so-numerous nowadays, having been de-
ed solely with reference to the capabilities of
e Carrolls. Consequently, no one should ex-
ct to find anything to enjoy in the drama
self, which is employed merely as the vehicle
r the introduction of a few specialties. There
precious juveniles and an Irish comedian of
ilium capacity named Mr. Hugh Carroll Family.
e boys are extremely clever in their songs
d dances, Little Dick being a decided favorite.

AIKEN'S THEATRE.

The increased patronage at Aiken's is a gratifying indication that so fine a performance as "Julius Cæsar," and, above all, so masterly an impersonation as Lawrence Barrett's *Cassius*, is not be slighted in Chicago. All the warm commendation which has been elicited by the production remains in full force, and those who are seeking fine Christmas entertainment this afternoon and evening will find ample repayment for a visit to the corner of Wabash avenue and Congress street.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE.

The "Lancashire Lass," one of the best of
ary J. Byron's productions, and giving John
on one of the strongest parts of his repertoire,
drawing large audiences at Hooley's Opera
use. It will be given twice to-day, afternoon
d evening.

MYERS' OPERA HOUSE.

The boys in black at Myers' Opera House
uld not be forgotten, for they are giving a
ital minstrel performance. Mackin and Wil-
, Clarence Burton, Billy Rice, Arlington,
ton, Kemble, and the whole company of sable
ists are in full force. There will be a grand
ristmas matinee to-day, besides the usual
ening performance.

WHY DO FLOUR-MILLS BURN?

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

IR: The writer has had occasion to pay some
ention to the origin of fires, and finds a re-
kable confirmation of his own conclusions as
the combustibility of flouring mills, in the
ract below.

ome two or three years ago, a mill was burned
Milwaukee by bringing an open light too near
ed-spout from which middlings were being
charged from bins in an upper story. The
e ran up the spout as if it were filled with
-gas, and destroyed the mill.

few weeks later, a mill was burned at St.
is from a similar cause, only, in this case,
caught from the flame in a globe-lamp; and
result was equally rapid and disastrous.

arious theories were started and discussed as
the cause of these fires, though but little was
itively known, except that mills were very
to burn, and most insurance companies de-
ed to write on those where open lights were
mitted to be used. The following extract
hence, be of interest to millers and under-
ers especially:

the 25th of last month, before the Royal Scottish
ety of Arts, Dr. Stevenson Macadam read a paper
which he showed that flour-mills are almost as dangerous
neighbors as gunpowder-mills. The chemical
onents of grain are combustible when burned
the ordinary way, and so consumed with greater
idity when diffused as a cloud through the air.
n flour is showered through a stove placed above a
ame, rapid combustion takes place. Indeed, the
burns with explosive rapidity, and the flame licks
e bystander somewhat in the same way that
e through a mixture of gas and air, or that
eeds along a train of gunpowder. When
ed, the flour resolves itself into gases. The
e, by mixing with the oxygen of the air, becomes
bonic oxide or carbonic acid, and the hydrogen and
ter unite, forming vapor, or steam. The volume
ese gases is much increased by the high tempera-
at the moment of combustion. The conditions
ired to bring about a flour explosion are some
similar to those which cause a gas-explosion.
agrees with coal-gas in being simply combusti-
hen unmixed with air, and equally agrees with
e in being explosive when mingled with air;
e flour, inexplicable dust must be diffused through
r in definite proportions in order to constitute an
losive when a while heat, such as a flame or spark,
ought near. In order to bring about an explo-
it is also necessary that the flour-dust
be more or less confined within a given
. The more common way of the production of
ark or flame which fires the flour-air explosive
ure is the feed going off the stone doing work
the stones get down on each other, and, as they
, a flinty or other hard siliceous rocks, and are re-
ng at from 100 to 160 revolutions in a minute,
quickly strike fire and become very hot. This
may go off for want of grain in the hopper or
obstruction in the feed-pipe. A spider's web so
stopped the feed in one case, and led to a vio-
explosion in an English flour-mill. Mr. Macadam
s various expedients to be adopted for avoiding
ill explosions, such as the removal of exhaust-
s, mortar-rooms, and other receptacles
e-dust, to the outside of the mill.

cago, Dec 20, 1872. J.

ing To-Day of the Home Billiard Parlor.

Sickers will be glad to know that a first-class
ll hall has been opened at 507 West Madison
under the Bishop Court Hotel, where Messrs.
& Co. will be pleased to see all lovers of the
Open on Christmas.

rof. C. H. Stowe was at the house of a
at Farmingham, Mass., a week ago, when
taken dangerously ill; but he is now re-
quite comfortable.

CHRISTMAS.

A General Observance of the Day in the Churches and Family Circles.

Post Office Announcement---Religious Services---At the Orphan Asylum.

To-day being Christmas Day, a general holiday will be observed throughout the city, and a general reunion of families scattered round the country is supposed to be necessary to the full enjoyment of the day. In the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches there will be appropriate Christmas services; in the homes there will be votive offerings to the deity who presides over good cheer, and other offerings to the little ones and big ones who belong to the family. In the stores and offices there will be very few people; none we hope. Everybody ought to share the happiness which millions will enjoy throughout Christendom to-day, and everybody, for once in his life, ought to endeavor to bring about so millennial a state of things. It does not matter where one lives, what one is going to eat or drink, or what to-morrow is to bring forth, it is said, and, under these circumstances, the best should be made of the day. To-day being a public and religious holiday, the Post Office will close at 10 a. m. Afternoon mails will close at 12 noon. Evening mails as usual. There will be two deliveries by carriers in the business districts and one outside.

IN THE CHURCHES.

The following services will be held in the Episcopal Churches to-day:

—All Saints' Church, corner of Carpenter and Fourth streets. The Rev. Henry G. Perry, Rector, will preach morning and evening. The Sunday School festival and Christmas-tree will rejoice the hearts of the children on Thursday.

—Grace Church, Wabash avenue, near Fourteenth street. The Rector, Dr. Locke, will preach at 10:30 this morning. Fine music will be given by Professor Baumbach and the choir.

—St. James Church. The Rector will preach the Christmas sermon at 11 o'clock. The choir of the Fourth Presbyterian Church have kindly volunteered for this service.

—Christ Church, corner of Michigan avenue and Twenty-fourth street. The Rector, Rev. C. E. Cheney, will preach in the morning.

—St. John's Church, Ashland avenue, near Madison street. Christmas services will be held in the morning. The Rev. H. N. Powers will preach on "The Babe Lying in a Manger." The Christmas festival of the Sunday School will occur to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

—Christmas services will also be held in the brick school house at Englewood at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon, after which the Holy Communion will be celebrated.

—Christmas services will also be held at St. Paul's Church, Kenwood, at 9 o'clock. The Sunday School festival will occur on Saturday, at 3 p. m.

—Services will be held at the Third Presbyterian Church, corner of Carpenter and West Washington streets. The Christmas festival of the Young Street Mission Chapel Sunday School will be held to-morrow evening; of the Home School on Friday evening, and of the Hoyne Street Mission on Saturday evening.

—A union prayer meeting will be held in the lecture room of the Plymouth Congregational Church, corner of Clark and Washington streets.

—The Sunday School festival of St. Paul's (Universalist) Church will occur at Standard Hall on Friday evening.

—The Free Methodist Sunday School will have its festival at No. 49 North Morgan street to-day.

ELSEWHERE.

The kind-hearted should not forget to attend the Christmas festival of the Orphan Asylum to-morrow. Contributions toward making the little ones happy will be gratefully received by the managers. Let every one who can, give something, and make the occasion a memorable one for the children.

The South Side Social Club will give a dancing party this evening at Avenue Hall on Twenty-second street.

THE LAW COURTS.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

The stony-hearted County Clerk was yesterday the winner of a $30 watch belonging to the wife of a Bailiff who had deserted and left her penniless, and which was put up to raffle for the poor creature's benefit; and the stony-hearted County Clerk forthwith sent the watch back, with the "compliments of a friend," and the still more stony-hearted Bailiff of the Court, on the way to the woman with the money realized by the raffle and the watch, thought the two would not be complete without garnishing for a Christmas dinner, and so straightway he bought him a turkey. He was a welcome guest indeed.

Mary Brinker yesterday petitioned the Circuit Court for a writ of *habeas corpus* against Thomas Moore, for the custody of a child of 13 years of age named Emma Thompson, alleging that she is her lawful guardian, and that Moore is keeping her without authority. The trial is set for Thursday.

Yesterday the injunction restraining the sale of the southwest quarter of Section 34, Township 40, Range 14, for special tax for grading State street and other papers in the suit Kline v. Boxford, commenced 17th August, 1871, were restored in the Circuit Court.

Several suits of an interesting character were tried in the Superior Court last night, so late that it was impossible to extract the facts in a reliable form without drawing on the imagination.

Rainforth and Fuller have engaged to give up the spoil taken from young Forbes, and pleaded guilty, and the motion for change of venue to Cook County is withdrawn.

Hearing on the application to restrain the use of Carroll street, between Clinton and Canal streets, in the suit of Mason v. The Columbus, Chicago & Indiana Central Railroad Company, is set for Friday.

Dennis Larkin claims that the city owes him $200 on his certain house and land, and the city owes the claim, and the battle is being fought before Judge Booth.

Michael Cahill having failed to pay the $50 temporary alimony ordered on the 5th August inst., in the divorce suit Margaret v. Michael Cahill, is now ruled to show cause why he could not be attached for contempt on Thursday.

A. B. & T. Wilcox bring replevin suit against Tariff Bradley for the possession of their lumber yard at Evanston, valued at $15,000.

ATTORNEYS' RECORD.

JUDGMENTS AND TRIALS.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.—868—Claflin v. Van Valen et al.; motion for new trial overruled; judgment, $68.—Cahill v. Kindes Insurance Company; same.—726—Norton et al. v. Northern Transportation Company; motion for new trial partially heard on Tuesday concluded, and taken under advisement.—977—Ross v. Cox; default and clerk to assess damages.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—700—Upton, Assignee et v. Carver; trial resumed; judgment for $4,085; motion for new trial.—966—Upton, Assignee et v. Same; trial resumed; verdict for plaintiff $807.20; motion for new trial.—(*Bankruptcy*)—3,107—Peter Adler; order confirming sale unless orders are filed by 9 a. m. 24th inst.—3,198—Wm. Reed; cause dismissed.—2,139—Bacon & Kennedy, adjudication.

CIRCUIT COURT.—(*Booth, J.*)—2713—Negley et al. v. Lyman et al.; judgment as to John W. Redman for $1,000, and as to others, 967—Forsythe v. Forsythe; rule to file bill of particulars extended to 31st inst.—1,500—Brinker v. Moore; writ of habeas corpus issued, returnable 26th inst.—3,164—Becker v. Commercial Insurance Company; default $3,163. 3,027—Hall v. Brown; dismissed by plaintiff.—78—Ward v. Ward; judgment on verdict, appeal, bond and bill of exceptions in thirty days.—797—Larson v. City; evidence partly read and case continued.—544—Margaret v. Michael Cahill; rule to show cause why bill be should not be stayed for payment of alimony, returnable Friday.—613—Trout v. Juterschank, et al.; final order.—953—Pleasants v. Cochran, et al.; J. L. Wilson, guardian ad litem of Frank Aubrey Maagle, makes his report.—1,049—Junius Massey, and his answer filed.—1,225—Griffin v. Hatcher; cause set for hearing on bill, answer, exhibits, and proofs.—1,303—O. N. 8,303—Kline v. Boxford; decree confirmed.—1871—Restored. G. N. 4,152—Mason, v. Columbus, Chicago & Indiana Central Railway Company; hearing on bill; affidavits and answer set for hearing at 9 o'clock a. m.

CIRCUIT COURT—(*Porter, J.*)—8,853—Hopkins v. Hopkins; decreed by plaintiff.—2,668—Hurlbut v. Mackey; appeal dismissed by defendant's proceedings.—3,125—McCarthy v. Hibernia Insurance Company; dismissed by plaintiff.—2,560—Same v. same; same.—(*Gary, J.*)—647—Austrian v. Austrian; decree of divorce.—1,115—Millandy v. Auspitz; time to file bond extended five days.—807—Jansen v. Jansen; dismissed by complainant. (The above cases are of Dec. 23.)—961—Linton v. Murray; N. A. Ada Murray; and dismissed by complainant as to McGlashen.—824—Perry v. Perry; decree of divorce.

COUNTY COURT.

John O'Keefe; citation continued to the first day of February.—Chas. H. King; claim of A. Dorothy dismissed.—John Lyons; claims of Grossheim & Kreikmeyer, Ralph Meany, and John Beayan allowed.—Joseph Meeker; claim of C. & C. H. Follansbee allowed.—Samuel McKay; claim of Storey & King allowed.—Elizabeth E. Norton; claims of H. W. Volk and Gilbert & Sampson allowed.—John Mehegan; claim of Peter and John Fortune dismissed.—John Stumpf; claims of Mrs. Carl Hoff, Geo. Hemmer, and John M. Meyer allowed.—Andrew Schall; claim of Jas. Wright allowed.—Enoch H. Stein; claims of Mason & Leopold Hirsh and J. W. Chr. Goetz dismissed, and Merchants' Lithographing Company dismissed.—John A. Shaw; claims of W. Andrews and C. P. Grandine allowed.—Seth Sheldon, Jr.; claims of A. H. White, B. F. Head, Sally Slaight, H. W. Rogers, Jr., all dismissed.—Thomas J. Shepherd; claims of Jas. M. Dalton and Chas Swett allowed.—Ely Wolfram, Jr.; claim of Jacob Schleswohl allowed.—Robert Wilson; claims of Cranes Brothers Manufacturing Company, Ludwig Wolff, and Joel Hayden et al. allowed.—Michael McCarty; grant of administration to Florence McCarthy; bond, $600, approved.—Lorenzo Eldridge; proof of heirship.—On the petition of the County Agent; ordered that a warrant be issued returnable 26th inst., 11 a. m., to try the alleged insanity of Gottlieb Huff, Thos. F. Wolff, and Jas. Fulgersen.—Certificate of good moral character issued to Horace Gray Lunt.

CRIMINAL COURT.

Fuller v. Rainforth; change of venue set aside, and plea of guilty entered.

NEW SUITS.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.—Leopold Rothschild for use of Samuel Gilchrist and T. Harts v. Buffalo Fire and Marine Insurance Company; assumpsit; transcript from Cook County Circuit Court.

CIRCUIT COURT.—5,000—People ex rel. Emma Thompson, aged 13, v. Thomas Moore; petition by Mary Brinker, guardian, for habeas corpus.—5,301—Bowles et al. v. Chapman; appeal.—5,302—Jacob B. Hipp et al. v. Henry Hellmann et al.; petition for mechanic's lien on the premises of Milwaukee avenue and Augusta street for $238.86.—5,303—Eliza J. Clive v. H. S. Boxford; restored papers.—5,304—Frederick Dunning v. Henry Hepworth and John Nesbitt; debt, $850. Ad damnum, $1,000.—Washington Hyde by next friend, v. W. M. Bush; bill for injunction restraining sale under trust deed.—5,306—Cody v. Conlan; appeal.—5,307—Jessie Adams v. Alfred Wilkins; attachment for $474.38 for goods delivered.—5,308—William Hallenbeck v. John C. Heitzeman, William S. Sampson, and Elizabeth Sampson; bill to remove cloud on title.—5,309—Albert B. Wilcox and Theodore B. Wilcox v. Timothy M. Bradley; replevin on the plaintiff's lumber yard at Evanston, valued at $15,400.—5,310—Robert M. Bell v. Truman W. Steele; bill for specific performance, and to set aside a mortgage sale.

SUPERIOR COURT—41,774—George R. White v. John Paschlmann; confession of judgment of a note of $674.91.—41,775—Elizabeth, executrix of Joseph Meeker; application for a writ of citizari in the claim of Seth E. Hurlbut against the estate of Joseph Meeker, decided in the County Court, and judgment issued.—41,776—Mary E. Runyan, Hy. G. Shaw, and Benj. C. Shaw v. W. J. Johnson, John M. Secrist, and S. J. Secrist; assumpsit, $900.—41,777—M. J. Lincoln v. Eli G. Blathwick; assumpsit, $3,000.—41,778—Maria J. O'Brien v. William E. O'Brien; divorce.—41,779—N. Foster and G. Rosenthal v. Wm. Bargman; assumpsit, $900.—41,780—Joseph V. Fuller, John H. Warren, Geo. A. Wells, and Walter Kimball v. Thomas Moore; assumpsit, $300.—41,781—Thos. Nicolas and Ephraim Addems v. James Bligh, Elizabeth Bligh, Nigel Rees, and Jackson D. Reeves; bill to foreclose mortgage on platted lots 1 and 2 in Addition to Pharsori & Alterton's Addition, in Section 33, Township 39, Range 14, to secure a running account exceeding $10,000.—41,782—Same v. Bligh and wife, Jackson D. Reeves, and Daniel Goodwin; bill to foreclose mortgage on Lot 47, in same block and addition, to secure a note of $1,000.—41,783—Charles R. E. Keogh v. Jonathan A. Kennicott; bill to dissolve the dormitory firm of Keogh & Kennicott, and for account and injunction.—41,784—Isaac S. McGowan v. Dennis Galligan; case, $10,000.—41,785—O. Geary v. George Kale, Henry Lange, Louis Kohn, and Ernst Sulwick; mechanic's lien for $297.75 on the east quarter of Subdot 1, Lot 2, Block 11, in Fractional Section 28 Addition.—41,786—J. B. Rowell for use of John Alston & Co. v. Leander J. and R. S. McCormick; affidavit for garnishment for $936.96.—41,787—Christian Mandenach v. Nicholas Miller; petition for mechanic's lien for $103.75 on Lot 39, Block 53, Section 33, Township 40, Range 15.—41,788—John C. McFarland et al., doing business as McFarland, Price & Co.'s, v. A. E. Boise; petition for mechanic's lien on Lot 24, in Block 20, in Johnston, Roberts & Storrs' Addition.

THE SUNDAY SALOON LAW.

The Temperance Bureau Protests Against the Personal Liberty Leagues' Proposed New Sunday Liquor Law.

The Temperance Bureau has promulgated the following

PROTEST:

TO THE CITIZENS OF CHICAGO: Is this a Christian or a pagan city? Are we living in Christendom or a heathen country? A stranger who should visit the Common Council of our city might well ask these questions.

A few months ago crime stalked in our streets with unblushing front, and horrid murders followed with startling regularity each Sabbath desecration. In answer to a popular demand the exective officers of the city enforced the Sunday ordinance. What was the result? No more crimes are committed upon that day, but are transferred to week days. The liquors dealers, fearful of loosing the profits of their trade on the seventh day, rallied to the conflict on election day for the purpose of carrying the city in their interests. Beaten at the polls, where the issue was directly made, they have corrupted those who, previous to the election, pledged themselves to oppose the repeal of the Sunday ordinance. The pastors of Christian churches voted last night in the Common Council to violate, in a secret, hypocritical manner, the day held sacred by all churches to the memory of the Savior of mankind and the representative of the holy rest of Heaven. At whose instigation have Christians so far forgot their manhood as to stultify themselves before God and their fellow-men? At the behest of liquor dealers! With a great flourish of the "Personal Liberty League," an association of saloon-keepers, presented an ordinance, drawn by their hired attorney, providing for the secret violation of the Sabbath, and by their presence in great numbers overawed those men to refer it to a select committee of their own choosing, instead of the regular committee before whom it should properly come, with instructions to report it ready for passage in two weeks. Without doubt, the committee, when reported, will be the liquor dealers rule Chicago. They have blinded the eyes and corrupted the conscience of a majority of its Common Council. Will the order-loving citizens of Chicago tamely submit? Can they desire the repetition of the drunken murders of August and September last? Are the lovers of order and morality in a minority? Is a majority of the people of Chicago in favor of free license, free whiskey, free crime, and free working of Bacchus, Gambrinus, and the host of infernal sensuous, licentious gods? On every day of the week are the citizens of our noble resurrected city ready to place their necks under the foot of King Alcohol, and if not, then why wait to the end of the time when the whole condition of things and recognize the fact that there can be no compromise with the Satan of strong drink; and let not the echoes of the ayes and noes of the passage of this ordinance die away until the Legislature, soon to meet, is asked, with the voice of many people, to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage throughout the limits of the State.

The people of the country, away from the cities, are temperate, true, and patriotic, and ready to sustain such a law.

We need not doubt its enforcement if properly framed. The Sunday law has been enforced even in Chicago, and we can guarantee the enforcement of any law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, if placed in stable hands.

We must do this in *self-defence*, if our wisest and best regulations are to vanish from the city ordinances at the command of liquor-dealers, like fancy's dreams. If this ordinance passes we ask every order-loving citizen, and every man actuated by charity toward his fellow-man, throughout the State, to sign petitions for such a law as above indicated.

We shall prepare petitions for that purpose. In the meantime, every one should exert himself to prevent the bad character of a repeal of our city ordinances. Next Monday night, on the passage of the revised ordinances, the work will be done, and the great City of Chicago will set the bad example to the world of authorizing drunken murders and crime-producing to violate the sanctity of God's holy day, transforming it into a day for the nursery of crime and insulting the mandates of Divine authority.

TEMPERANCE BUREAU.

THE CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

An Appeal from the Library Committee to the People of Chicago.

Messrs. Elliott Anthony, James W. Sheahan, and Herman Raster, Committee on Library, on behalf of the Chicago Public Library, have issued the following appeal to the citizens of this city, which we hope will be immediately acted upon in the most generous manner:

To the People of Chicago:

The Directors of the Chicago Public Library having resolved to open to the public the reading rooms on the first day of January, next, it is time to appeal to the citizens of Chicago for contributions to the Library. All of the books which we now have on our shelves, with but very few exceptions, have been contributed by our friends in England and on the Continent of Europe. Will not our own citizens aid us by making to the Library a holiday donation of books? If those who are able would contribute but a single book each, it would amount to the aggregate to a large number of volumes, and would enable us to open the Library for use at a very early day. Contributions may be sent at any time to the rooms of the Library, in the Court House, situated at the corner of Adams and LaSalle streets, and if the names of the donors accompany the same, a card will be inserted in each volume, showing by whom the donation was made, and a proper acknowledgment will also be made to all through the public PRESS.

ELLIOTT ANTHONY,
JAMES W. SHEAHAN,
HERMAN RASTER,
In behalf of the Chicago Public Library.

Gunther Will Be Open All Day.

Gunther's will be open all day to-day, and under McVicker's Theatre and on the corner of Monroe and McVicker's Theatre and on the corner of Twentieth streets. This is for the accommodation of his thousands of customers who are expected to call and taste of the sweetmeats he has in store for all good people.

The Knabe.

A truly good thing never fails in New York, and the Knabe Piano finds high favor with all classes. J. Bauer & Co., sole agents, Nos. 396 to 396 Wabash avenue.

The Saratoga Geyser Water.

Buck & Raymond are true Geyser at the "Spa."

"SHASTA BUTTE."

California Scenery Depicted on Canvas by a Chicago Artist.

H. A. Elkins' Great Picture of Mount Shasta, on the Pacific Coast.

The pictures of Western scenery presented to the world by Bierstadt and Church awakened a new interest in that most picturesque region of the United States, and directed the footsteps of adventurous artists toward the mountains of the Pacific slope in search of new subjects. Among the few who braved the toil and danger incidental to a journey to the Far West, was Mr. H. A. Elkins, of this city. Fascinated by the fame of Mount Shasta, in Northern California, he made a pilgrimage thereto, and brought back with him sixty different studies, which he has combined in one grand picture, known as "Shasta Butte." It is the labor of three long years. The foundation of the work was begun previous to the fire, but the canvas was torn and scorched in an attempt to save it from the flames, and the artist was compelled to begin *de novo*. Fortunately, his studies were rescued unscathed, and, nothing daunted, he commenced again, and has continued industriously at his easel ever since. The result of his labor is now before the public, and a picture of such magnitude and pretension cannot fail to attract considerable attention, wherever exhibited.

Clarence King, in his "Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada," devotes pages to descriptions of the scenery around this gigantic upheaval of Nature, and the following from his pen will give an idea of the scene which the painter has more vividly portrayed with his pencil:

Shasta, from Siscons, is a broad, triple mountain, the central summit being flanked on the west by a large and quite perfect crater, whose rim reaches about twelve thousand feet altitude; on the west a broad shoulder-like spur juts from the general slope. The cone rises, from its base, eleven thousand feet in one sweep. Under this high sky and a pure quality of light, the whole varied foreground of green and gold stretches out toward the rocky mountain base in charming contrast. Brooks from the snow thread their way through open meadow, growing overhead in semi-arch of willows, silvery and cool. Shasta, as a whole, is the single cone of an immense extinct volcano. It occupies almost precisely the axial line of the Sierra Nevada, but the range, instead of carrying the great snow-like ridge through this region, breaks down in the neighborhood of Lassen's Butte, and for eighty miles northward is only represented by low, confused masses of mountain, cut through and through by the canons of the MacCloud, Pitt, and Sacramento. A broad undulating plain, interrupted here and there by inconsiderable chains, occupies the country east of Scott's Mountain. From this general plain, whose altitude is from twenty-five hundred to thirty-five hundred feet, rises Mt. Shasta. About its base cluster hillocks of a hundred little volcances, but they are utterly inconspicuous under the shadow of the great peak. The volcanic plain land is partly overgrown by forest, and in part covers itself with fields of grass or sage. Riding over it in almost any part, the one great point in the landscape is the cone of Shasta. Its crest of white, its vast altitude, the pale gray or rosy tints of its lavas, and the dark girdle of forest which swells up over canon-carved foot-hills, give it a grandeur equaled by hardly any other mountain in America.

Imagine the foregoing picture transferred to the canvas by an artist who has been extremely conscientious in the translation. An elaborate description of its beauties cannot convey to the eye an adequate idea of the picture as a whole. It must be seen and studied in order to be appreciated. The dimensions are 72x120 inches. It is a mass of shadow and a mass of light, filled in with detail. The shadow of an impending storm casts into relief and strongly defines the outlines of the mountain to the left. The light breaking from the clouds strikes between that and the summit of Shasta, and floods with light the valley below. In this valley are the remains of extinct volcanoes, the craters being executed in detail. A miniature lake formed by the snow drifts, shimmers on one side of the valley, its shore being fringed with forests. To the right of the foreground are the everlasting rocks, a stream winding in and out, and on the other side of the valley in the foreground are more rocks, studded with cedar and fir trees. The rocks and the foliage, the result of infinite pains, are wonderfully faithful to nature.

In the centre of the picture rises the summit of the mountain shrouded in everlasting snow. The light and shade of the summit and the configuration of the clouds are as notable as any part of the picture. The shading is delicate, and the effect of the light on the whole scene is singularly fortunate. Much study produced what is almost perfection in this important element of the painting. Mr. Elkins, in addition to the sketches taken on the spot, studied sunsets for eight months at Riverside from the top of Mr. Ford's house. One ray of light occupied two months' time to make it produce the effect desired, and the pains-taking artist has achieved a triumph that amply repays him.

The picture should be seen. It promises to rank high, and to redound to the glory of its author. The execution is free and easy almost throughout the entire work. There is hardly a trace of stiffness. The lines are generally bold and elegant and the coloring rich. Those who have seen Mount Shasta testify to the absolute faithfulness of the drawing.

This is the work of a young artist whose home is in Chicago, and it goes forth to the world, its critical and captious world of New York and London, to astonish those who imagine that nothing great in art can come out of the Western town. We believe it will be commended, wherever it goes, by the fair-minded, and we trust that his success will not turn Mr. Elkins from continued study, which will insure him further triumphs in his profession. The picture will be on exhibition for one month at No. 364 Wabash avenue, and for 25 cents it can be seen. Every one should honor it with a visit.

OTHER MATTERS.

In the room adjoining that in which "Shasta Butte" is hung is a portrait of Joaquin Miller, the Poet of the Sierras, by Tracy, a California artist. It is a fine painting. The hair is long and flowing around the poetic shoulders, and the lower portion of the face is hidden in brown whiskers. The countenance is pleasing. The nose is of the Grecian type, the eye fine, with a cold, grayish tinge, the forehead is lofty, though not broad. As a curiosity, it is worth looking at.

Mr. Julius Gallman, who has his studio in THE TRIBUNE Building, has on his easels some heads which indicate his power as a portrait painter. As a wielder of the crayon he is amongst the most successful artists of the day, and his studio is a gallery of heads which will be easily recognized by every citizen of Chicago.

SANITARY MATTERS.

Meeting of the Board of Health---A Slight Decrease in the Death Rate---Small-Pox Statistics---Registration of Births.

The Board of Health had a regular meeting yesterday afternoon. The Sanitary Superintendent reported that there had been 156 deaths during the week, or 6 less than for the preceding one. Of these, 76 were males and 80 females. There were 18 deaths by convulsions, 15 by consumption, 14 by small-pox, and 13 each by pneumonia and typhoid fever. The marked features of the week are the increase by typhoid fever and decrease by croup. Female mortality was in excess. The highest death rate was in the Eighth Ward, and the lowest in the Fourteenth. The mean daily temperature of the week was 9 degrees lower than for the preceding one. For the last six weeks, the temperature has been unusually slow, and the great change last week increased the mortality among young and old, and will be marked, this week, by the number of deaths by inflammatory diseases.

CASES OF SMALL-POX

and varioloid have been reported at Nos. 875 South Canal, 108 West Polk, 263 Twentieth street, Blodge street, 43 Crosby, 135 Cornelia, 16 Fifth, 239 Rucker, 111 North Elizabeth, 119, 125, and 208 Hubbard, 735 North Ada, 208 North Halsted, 119 North LaSalle, 1080 South Halsted, 140 Cornelia, 13 Twomey, 139 and 93 West Kinzie, 113 West Indiana, 161 North Union, 295 Third avenue, 187 West Blackhawk, 155 First, 12 Cleaver, 51 Johnson, 201 West Washington, 40 Temple, 278 South Clinton, 93 Ontario, 38 Fourth, 15 Fay, and 218 Clybourne avenue. There is a slight decrease in the number of infected houses reported, compared with the previous week, the greatest change occurring in the district south of Twelfth street, where there is a decrease of eight and north of Twelfth on the West Side, where there was one of six; on the South Side there was decrease of six, and on the North Side an increase of five, the number being greater than for any week in five months. In the last two months the disease has made but little progress. By the prompt enforcement of the regulations of the Board, with the co-operation of the citizens in being revaccinated, it is expected that the disease will soon be comparatively wiped out. There died in Chicago 14 last week, in St. Louis 125, in Boston 53, and in Buffalo 39. St. Louis lost 529 in four months, about as many as Chicago in the whole year. Owing to the intense cold the disease may, however, increase this week. The practice of carrying the remains of those who died of this disease into churches, to hold religious services, still continues, two instances having occurred during the week.

BIRTH STATISTICS.

Owing to the imperfect registration of births, he has decided to publish monthly the name, residence, and number reported by each physician and midwife, hoping thus to stimulate the reporting of births.

HOW TO SETTLE THE QUESTION.

The Mayor Proposes to Leave the Matter of the Repeal of the Sunday Liquor Ordinance to the Popular Voice to Decide.

As several able-bodied persons nearly caught cold yesterday in giving vent to a laugh at the expense of the Common Council for endeavoring to rescind the Sunday ordinance, and with it the statute, a reporter betook himself to the one source of information in the City Hall building—the Mayor's office,—and interviewed Mr. Medill. The information he received was about as follows: The only way in which the repeal of the ordinance can be effected, is an application to the Legislature for authority empowering the Mayor and Common Council of cities, and the Boards of Townships, to submit the question to a vote of all legal and qualified voters within the city limits, upon the question as follows: "For the repeal of the Sunday liquor ordinance," and "Against the repeal of the Sunday liquor ordinance." If a majority declared for the repeal, the ordinance would be repealed, otherwise, it would not. There is a precedent for such a disposition of the question in other States. It is a law in Massachusetts to-day. They are there compelled to take a popular vote every spring whether liquor shall be sold in the cities and townships or not. About one half of the cities and townships vote in the affirmative, and the remainder in the negative. Boston votes for licensing the sale of liquor; some cities prohibit its sale. The vote is taken in the spring, so as not to influence the elections in any way. It is no longer a political question, the people voting yes or no as they individually think fit. This system was proposed to the New York Legislature, but no action has yet been taken upon it. The Mayor thinks such a thing should be done. If a majority of the people demand its repeal, it is contrary to sound democratic principles for a minority to enforce it, and *vice versa*.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

New York Financial News.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Business on Wall street was quiet, and closed much earlier than usual. All departments of trade will be closed to-morrow.

Money was comparatively easy at 7 per cent to 7 1-16, closing at 6 1-2@7.

Sterling was quiet at 109¼@109⅝ for long; 110¾ for sight.

Gold dull and steady all day at 111⅛@111⅜. Carrying rates, 1-16@5 per cent. Clearings, $40,000,000. Treasury disbursements, $1,103,000.

Governments were quiet and firm.

State bonds dull.

Stocks ruled quiet and lower, with considerable realizing by parties closing out their speculative ventures for the Holidays. The most active shares were Pacific Mail, Western Union, Wabash, and New York Central.

Sterling, 109¾.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons, '81	111⅞
5-20s of '62	113½
Coupons, '64	113½
Coupons, '65	113½
Coupons, '65 (new)	113½
Coupons, '67	116⅝
Coupons, '68	116⅝
New 5s	111
10-40s	109¾
Currency 6s	113½

STATE BONDS.

Missouris	94
Tennessees, old	79
Tennessees, new	59
Virginias, new	50

STOCKS.

Canton	102½
W. U. Tel	80½
Quicksilver	46½
Adams Express	93
Wells Fargo	88
American Express	66½
United States Ex	70½
Pacific Mail	74⅛
New York Central	97⅞
Erie	60¾
Reading	102
Harlem, ex. div	116½
Harlem pfd, ex. div	122
Michigan Central	115
Pittsburgh	86½
Northwestern	82
Northwestern pfd	85¾
Rock Island	111½
N. J. Central	104½
Ft. Wayne	94

MONEY AND COMMERCE.

MONETARY.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 24.

In the local market, as far as the banks are concerned, money continues very tight. The heavy demands of the pork packers have taken about all the money the banks care to let out just at present, in view of the possibility of a statement being called for. But in the open market there are pretty free offers of money at 10 per cent per annum for 60 days, on first-class stock collaterals. Since the close of last week, the receipts of hogs have fallen off largely, and probably will continue to do so until after the holidays, so that the demands of packers on the banks for money are likely to fall off also. After the holidays, the interest and dividend disbursements in the Eastern cities will probably ease those markets, and the effect be reflected to some extent here. On the whole, it seems probable that the worst pinch for money this winter is over, though the stringency may not disappear entirely until the latter part of January.

New York exchange is in large supply, and sold between banks to-day at 50c to 75c per $1,000 discount.

PUBLISHING LISTS OF STOCKHOLDERS.

Some remarks made in this column a few days ago about National Banks making public, in some manner, the list of their stockholders and the amounts of stock held by each, have caused a good deal of comment among bankers. As we remarked on a former occasion, the clause of the National Bank act which provides that National Banks shall keep, for the inspection of all creditors of the bank, a book in which is a list of the stockholders with the amount of stock owned by each, is to a great extent inoperative. A creditor or depositor who feels enough doubt about the condition of a bank to begin to think who are the stockholders on whom he should have to fall back in case of the failure of the bank, prefers to take the short cut to certainty by drawing out his money and putting it in some other bank, without exercising his privilege of inquiring who are the stockholders. It is seldom that either the public or the creditors of the bank ever know anything about who are the stockholders until a bank fails, and they find then (as in the recent case of the Scandinavian National Bank) that the stock is held in foreign countries where the owners are not amenable to the double-liability clause of the law, or else, as sometimes happens, that nearly the whole of the stock is held by a few individuals whose whole capital is invested in the stock, and that, in the case of failure of the bank, the stockholders would be unable to pay any 100 per cent additional as required by the National Bank act. A good many of our bankers who think that the publication of a list of their stockholders would be of benefit to them, would be glad to see such a custom established by National Banks; others to whom such a custom would be unfavorable for obvious reasons, are opposed to it. For the benefit of those who might be inclined to regard such a custom as an innovation, we would say that it has a precedent in the case of the old State Bank of Iowa, which was obliged by law to keep a list of its stockholders, with the amount of stock held by each, hung up outside the counter, where every person who entered the bank could see it before he became a creditor of the bank by depositing his money in it. It is often claimed by the enemies of the National Banking system that it affords no more security to depositors than any of the old State Bank systems. This is not true. The National Bank law not only makes stockholders individually liable to depositors for double the amount of their stock, but the Treasury at Washington holds a margin of about 95 per cent over and above the circulation of the banks, of which 20 per cent would go to pay depositors in case of the failure of the bank. But in the matter of giving the public information as to who are the stockholders on whom the depositors might eventually fall back, the instance of the State Bank of Iowa shows that the provisions of the National Banks were at least required to give more public information on the subject than the National Banks do now.

REAL ESTATE.

The following instruments were filed for record, on Tuesday, Dec. 24:

CITY PROPERTY.

Mohawk st, between Menominee and Wisconsin sts, w f, 43 ft to alley, dated Dec. 23; consideration, $2,000.

Lot 94, in Block 13, of e ½ Sec 31, 39, 14, dated Dec. 23; consideration, $400.

Eleven lots in Kimball's Subdivision in s e ¼ of Sec 14, 39, 13, dated Nov. 2; consideration, $950.

Clark st, n f s of Madison st, e f, 23 ft running west to alley, with s f of 49 ft on Madison st, dated Nov. 23; consideration, $110,000. Wm. H. Taylor to James S. and Harvey W. Brown.

Thirty-fifth st, between Colfax and Rhodes ave, s f, 50x100 ft, dated Nov. 11; consideration, $3,500.

Wood st, w f, between Halsted and Union sts, s f, 20x100 ft, with improvements; dated June 12; consideration, $4,000.

Lot 31, in Block 1 of Block 19, of s ½ of Sec. 31, 39, 14, dated Sept. 21; consideration, $450.

Carpenter st, bet Washington and Madison sts, s f, 20x125 ft, dated Dec. 21; consideration, $15,000.

The premises No. 39 Langley st, dated Nov. 1; consideration, $7,500.

SOUTH OF CITY LIMITS.

Lot 25 of 1000 acres in Hundley's e ½ of s e ¼ Sec 17, 40, 14, dated Dec. 19; consideration, $3,000.

Lot 11 in some subdivision, dated Dec. 19; consideration, $1,500.

SOUTH OF CITY LIMITS.

Und ¼ of Lots 1 to 50, in Rosenmerkel's Block 31, in Sec. 16, 39, 14, dated Oct. 21; consideration, $10,000.

Und ¼ of same, dated Oct. 21; consideration, $10,000.

Und ¼ of Lots 23 to 38, in same, dated Oct. 21; consideration, $8,000.

Und ¼ of same lots, dated Oct. 21; consideration, $8,000.

Calumet av, e f, 111x160 ft, in Wilson, Heald & Stebbing's e ½ of s w ¼ Sec. 15, 39, 14, dated Dec. 20; consideration, $2,250.

Lot 25, in Block 4, of Snowdon's s w ¼ of n w ¼ Sec. 17, 38, 14, dated June 24; consideration, $200.

COMMERCIAL.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 24.

The following were the receipts and shipments of the leading articles of produce in this city during the past twenty-four hours, and for the corresponding date a year ago:

	RECEIPTS.		SHIPMENTS.	
	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.
Flour, brls	5,233	4,018	8,464	3,586
Wheat, bu	44,102	34,399	6,078	1,700
Corn, bu	54,670	129,134	4,893	9,020
Oats, bu	20,176	40,850	27,692	7,531
Rye, bu	3,353	2,372	....	229
Barley, bu	24,570	10,020	8,471	11,626
Grass Seed, lbs	29,680	19,150	23,110	53,320
Flax Seed, lbs	....	....	....	....
Broom Corn, lbs	....	29,550	11,500	11,552
Cured Meats, lbs	352,240	374,850	1534990	2963453
Beef, brls	....	....	60	250
Pork, brls	132	1,078	730	825
Lard, lbs	9,540	456,780	647,350	668,223
Tallow, lbs	131,660	22,380	....	5,810
Butter, lbs	89,290	43,887	558	12,710
Dressed Hogs, No	2,000	3,185	1,670	2,015
Live Hogs, No	26,377	11,444	4,243	5,978
Cattle, No	986	1,248	619	1,116
Sheep, No	721	842	1,257	283
Hides, lbs	221,920	83,572	119,970	49,814
Highwines, brls	150	572	160	215
Wool, lbs	131,660	67,316	....	21,696
Potatoes, bu	4,546	1,700	....	600
Lumber, m ft	24	321	308	405
Shingles, m	840	60	372	170
Lath, m	140	8	60	61
Salt, brls	140	....	850	1,122

Withdrawn from store on yesterday for city consumption: 1,165 bu wheat; 2,938 bu corn; 2,145 bu oats; 852 bu rye; 3,472 bu barley.

The following grain has been inspected into store this morning, up to 10 o'clock: 56 cars wheat; 80 cars corn; 19 cars oats; 9 cars rye; 15 cars barley. Total, 209 cars, or 82,000 bu.

To-morrow (Wednesday) being Christmas, will be observed as a holiday in commercial circles. The Exchange room in the Chamber of Commerce will be closed to the members of the Board Trade (and to all others). The "extra" Board room will be opened for business on Thursday morning.

The bitter cold weather is just now the most prominent topic of conversation in commercial circles; and the remark "it's a cold day" is actually heard as often as "I'll give an eighth," or "No, I'll sell at a quarter." How much of reason there is for so much attention may be inferred from a statement of the fact that the temperature in this city this morning was as far below the freezing point of wateras the freezing point is below blood heat. It is no wonder that hogs freeze to death by the score, or that owners of even dressed hogs should be afraid to drive them through the streets lest *they* should be starved to death. If this kind of weather should continue much longer, it must certainly place an extra tax on many kinds of business, for it is difficult to see how we can ever get used to it, as the cats do to being skinned. There is danger that we shall all be reduced to the shivering condition of Edgar in King Lear, when he cried —"Poor Tom's a' cold."

There was very little doing in produce circles to-day, except in wheat, which was excited. The near approach of Christmas was ample reason for lack of interest in and the weather was bitter enough to frighten stagnation, especially under a scarcity of the circulating medium. But prices held up well, there being no marked decline, and some of the markets were quite strong, in spite of rather large receipts for the season. There was not much anxiety to sell in any department, for the above stated causes operated on sellers as well as buyers. Outside of wheat, the trading was principally in goods for the holiday season, or in filling peremptory orders either to buy or to sell. Even all of these were not honored. In the grocery market only a comparatively small amount of trading was done, the demand being chiefly confined to small orders from retailers, to keep up assortments. Prices underwent no decided change. Sugars, coffees, rice, and candies were firm, while for other articles in that list the quotations were only indifferently sustained. The dry goods trade was reported quiet, with prices firm for all standard cotton and woollen fabrics, which are still relatively lower than the raw materials. The attendance of interior merchants was small, the demand being chiefly in the shape of mail orders. Butter was quiet and less firm, save, perhaps, for choice table grades, the ligh supply of which enabled holders to realize full former rates. Grain bags were decidedly firm, but other goods in the list were only fairly so. The demand continues small. Cheese remains inactive and weak. Orders received since last Friday last remain unfilled, the inclement weather rendering it unsafe to ship this class of goods. The coal market continues active with prices firm. One dealer (to his credit be it said) in opposition to the wishes of the rest of the trade, refuses to advance the price, and, although there is little more than a thirty days' supply of anthracite now in the market, he continues to fill orders at $12.00. Lackawanna coal can be laid down here by rail at a cost of $11.00 per ton. Dried fruits were again quoted quiet, and most foreign descriptions are easy. Fish continues dull and unchanged. The hay market was without important change, a moderate demand existing at about former rates. Hides and leather remain firm. The oil trade was quiet, with no material variation in prices, save for carbon, which was a ½c lower. Building materials, nails, metals, and tinners' stock were quiet and steady. Trade at the lumber yards was quiet, and prices nominally unchanged. Iron and steel were in moderate demand, and steady. Salt was fairly active, and firm. The wool market was quiet. There were several orders for fleece washed, and these grades are a trifle firmer, as the New York market is reported to have advanced from 2@3c. Other grades of wool were unchanged in price. An increased firmness continues to prevail in the Eastern prices are ruling quite strong Fast, which, of course, has a tendency to influence this market. The receipts of prime and choice hops are also very light. There was no change in broom corn. The demand was chiefly for the higher grades, and they are firm, being in meagre supply. Common brush is plenty and dull. Seeds were very quiet to-day: timothy was quotable firm at $3.25@3.30, and clover at $5.20@5.25. Potatoes and green fruits were quiet, the weather being too cold to handle them with safety. There was an active local inquiry for poultry, and prices were higher, the market being only fairly supplied.

Highwines were active and firmer, though reported dull in New York. Sale was made before Change of 150 barrels at 89c (yesterday's quotations), and on Change 200 barrels were sold at 89½c, the market closing firm at the onfside.

Dressed hogs were very quiet, and steady at yesterday's prices. Buyers held off till near the close of the session, as the shippers did not care to hold over Christmas, while packers were not in the market. Sales were restricted to 169 head (choice) at $4.30 per 100 lbs, and 119 (good) at $4.25.

Provisions were dull, and a little better than nominal, at about the same prices, except that pork was 5@10c per brl lower. There was no disposition to trade, and most of the sales reported below were really made last evening. Buyers were looking for reasons to depress the market in our issue of this morning, added to which was the fact that they did not wish to burden their Christmas memories with the care of additional trades. Live hogs were quoted dull and plenty, while the difficulty of procuring transportation facilities was a great as ever. Trade is expected to revive after the holidays, and it is thought that the prices established early in January will be not far from a gauge of the season. The market closed at the following range of prices: Mess Pork—Old, $11.25@11.50; new pork, cash or seller the month, at $11.50@11.60; do seller January, $11.50@11.55; do seller February, $11.60@11.65; do seller March, $11.75@11.80; do seller April, $11.90; prime mess, $10.50. Lard, cash, $6.95@7.00 for new, cash or seller December; do seller January, $7.00; do seller February, $7.12½; do seller March, $7.27½@7.30. Sweet pickled hams, 7¾@8¾c, and green hams at 7½c for 15-lb averages, and 7¾c for 16-lb averages. Green shoulders, 5¼@5½c; do rough sides, 4¾@4¾c; do short clear sides, 5¾@5¾c; do short clear, 5¾@5¾c; dry salted meats quotable at 3¾c for shoulders; 5¾c for short ribs, and 5¾c for short clear. Boxed shoulders, seller December, quoted at 3¾c. English meats for delivery in December and January, 6¾c for Cumberlands; 5¾c for short ribs or long clear; 6c for short clear; 6¼@6¾c for long cut hams. Mess beef, $9.00@9.50; extra mess do, $9.50@10.00; beef hams, $28.00@29.00. City tallow, 7½@7¾c; grease quotable at 5½@6¼c. Sales were reported of 250 brls mess pork, at $11.50; 1,500 tcs lard, at 7c; 500 tcs do, seller March, at 7.32½; 250 tcs do at $7.30; 50,000 lbs green shoulders at 3¾c; 5,000 pcs green hams (15 lbs), at 7½c; 6,750 pcs do (16 lbs), at 7½c; 20,000 lbs do, long cut (20 lbs), at 7c; 50 tcs yellow grease at 5¾c.

There was probably an error in the stock of lard in Liverpool, as reported in our issue of this morning. The stock on the 30th of September was 12,500 tons, of 2,240 lbs each, against 5,500 tons a year previously.

Flour was in a little better demand for shipment, early, being stimulated by the strength in wheat; but the inquiry fell off subsequently, and the market was little better than nominal at former prices during the latter half of the session, though reported stronger in New York. Choice spring extras were in some request. Buckwheat flour was dull and easier. Bran dull and steady. Sales were reported of 100 brls white winter extras at $8.85; 100 brls spring extras (Conqueror) at $7.50; 50 brls do at $6.25; 50 brls do at $5.75; 500 brls do on private terms; 200 brls superfines at $4.35; 50 brls buckwheat (Jackman's) at $8.00; 65 brls at $7.80; 135 brls do at $7.75; 200 brls cornmeal on private terms. Total, 1,430 brls. Also 10 tons bran at $11.00, on track.

Wheat was active and irregular, varying between the closing quotations of yesterday, and 1½c above them. The market was strongest before 11 o'clock, before any decided advances had been received from the eastern points. It was started up by the purchase of about 100,000 bu on Canadian account, which made others anxious to buy, the impression being that the Canadian principals had received important intelligence from Europe, on which they were buying. It has been suspected all along that the European floods have done an immense amount of damage to the winter wheat, which has not been reported here, for obvious reasons, and that old country speculators have been quietly at work, buying up all they could lay their hands on. How much of ground there may be for these suspicions it is impossible to say; but it is certain that those on our floor who were apparently the most positive that wheat would touch $1.25 before the close of this week were the most anxious to sell, the moment the market seemed to have touched the top to-day, and prices weakened under liberal offerings. There are several operators who have followed the market up from above $1.10, buying a few thousand bushels at each ½c or 1c advance, and who seemed to have placed their limit at $1.20 (for next month). It is just possible that their anxiety to get rid of their January deals before deliveries are due on Thursday of next week may weaken the market much further *ad interim*, especially if unsupported by continued advices of strength at other points; but that will be no reason why a still further advance should not occur after the holidays. Seller January opened at $1.18¾, advanced to $1.20¾, with large trading at $1.20, declined to $1.18¾, improved ¾c, declined to $1.18¾, and closed firmer at $1.18¾. Seller February ranged 2c above January, and seller the month or cash, No. 2 spring was relatively dull at $1.18¾@1.19¾, closing at $1.18. No. 1 spring was dull at $1.23¼. No. 3 spring closed at $1.05, and rejected do at 93c. Cash sales were reported of 400 bu No. 1 spring at $1.23¾; 15,600 bu No. 2 spring at $1.18¾; 15,000 bu do at $1.18¾; 24,800 bu do at $1.18¾; 7,800 bu do at $1.18; 1,600 bu No. 3 spring at $1.06; 2,000 bu do at $1.05½; 5,200 bu do at $1.05; 2,400 bu rejected do at 94c; 400 bu do at 93c. Total, 75,200 bu.

Corn was dull and rather weak, at a shade above the range of prices yesterday. The market opened apparently strong, in sympathy with wheat, New York being also reported firm; but it was soon evident that there were no buyers of any consequence, as many of the operators were drawn off by the excitement in wheat, and then holders generally refrained from offering property for which there was little or no demand. The consequence was that there was no trading during a considerable part of the session. As mentioned in our issue of this morning, there is a fair demand for the summer options, but little is offered at current quotations. Seller this month, or cash No. 2, sold at 30¼@30½c; seller January, at 30¾@30¼c, and seller February at 31¾@31¾c; all closing at the inside. Seller May sold at 36c, and seller June at 36½c. Cash sales were reported of 10,500 bu No. 2, at 30½c; 20,500 bu do, at 30½c; 2,500 bu rejected, at 29½c; 1,200 bu ear, at 35c, on track. Total, 35,400 bu.

Oats were very quiet—almost to lifelessness—but strong at about ½c advance, in sympathy with wheat; and owing, perhaps to the expectation of a better shipping demand, as the shipments and city consumption exceeded the receipts reported this morning. Seller the month, or cash, opened with 24½c bid and 24¾c asked, sold at 24½c, and advanced to 24¾c at the close. Seller January was nominal at the same range, and seller February at 25¼@25½c. Seller April sold at 28¾c. Rejected was quoted at 21@21½c. Cash sales were reported of 4,200 bu No. 2 at 24¾c; 600 bu do at 24½c, 1,800 bu do at 24¾c. Total, 6,600 bu.

Rye was more active, and 1½c higher, under a good demand, which was principally speculative, and light receipts. Sales were reported of 10,000 bu No. 2 on private terms; 2,400 bu do at 69½c; 800 bu do at 69c; 400 bu do at 68¾c. Total, 13,600 bu.

Barley was in better demand and irregular. No. 2 opened lower, but closed firm at yesterday's quotation, at 65c in ordinary houses, and 70c in Armour, Dole & Co.'s houses. No. 3 was stronger, at 53@54c in ordinary houses, and rejected firm at 41c. Seller January sold at 55c. Cash sales were reported of 600 bu No. 2, Dole & Co.) at 70c; 3,200 bu do at 65c; 1,000 bu do at 64½c; 400 bu do at 64c; 400 bu No. 3 at 56c; 1,200 bu do at 54c; 2,000 bu do at 53½c; 1,200 bu do at 53c; 4,400 bu rejected at 41c; 400 bu by sample at 85c; 400 bu do at 82c; 800 bu do at 80c; 400 bu do at 78¾c; 400 bu do at 77½c; 800 bu do at 77c; 400 bu do at 76c; 800 bu do at 75c; 800 bu do at 72c; 400 bu do at 68c; 400 bu at 65c; 400 bu do at 63½c, all on track. Total, 21,200 bu.

The following is the official record of grain in store in this city on the evening of Saturday last, and at corresponding dates:

	WHEAT.			
	Dec. 21, '72.	*Dec. 14, '72.*	*Dec. 23, '71.*	
No. 1 amber	....	....	1,355	
No. 2 amber	....	....	666	
No. 1 red	....	....	383	
No. 2 red	837	765	6,042	
No. 3 winter	1,635	1,635	1,635	
No grade winter	....	....	655	
No. 1 spring	7,256	8,048	34,347	
No. 2 spring	678,404	588,411	1,656,788	
No. 3 spring	204,366	173,161	84,511	
No. 1 hard spring	3,033	3,871	....	
No. 2 hard spring	6,717	25,837	32,742	
Rejected spring	28,632	....	19,271	
No grade spring	352	39	1,353	
Total	931,212	806,394	1,914,332	
	CORN.			
White	....	....	1,705	
Yellow	7,089	7,191	37,788	
No. 1	38,840	31,440	52,108	
No. 2	1,144,027	806,437	1,215,018	
Rejected	3,333	2,414	110,249	
No. 2 kiln dried	3,533	3,533	2,578	
Rejected kiln dried	....	....	120	
No grade	....	409	1,109	
New No. 2	....	....	....	
Total	1,214,882	932,426	2,536,758	
	OATS.			
No. 1	9,389	2,667	11,823	
No. 2	701,151	639,040	578,534	
Rejected	55,815	80,401	53,999	
No grade	1,722	....	2,740	
Total	767,147	722,108	647,022	
	RYE.			
No. 1	5,170	3,353	58,446	
No. 2	175,609	151,714	261,498	
Rejected	3,937	2,803	8,722	
Total	185,716	160,878	328,604	
	BARLEY.			
No. 1	198,539	196,084	417,194	
No. 2	54,924	57,719	97,228	
Rejected	18,537	18,410	5,303	
No grade	....	....	....	
Total	271,840	272,213	519,722	

Total, 3,365,597 bu. This is an increase during last week of 124,518 bu wheat; 282,356 bu corn; 70,039 bu oats; 24,841 bu rye; and an increase of 579 bu barley.

PROVISIONS.

The New York Produce Exchange circular gives the following as the foreign exports of provisions from New York for the week ended Dec. 17, 1872, and the distribution of same:

To	*Pork, brls.*	*Beef, pkgs.*	*Lard, lbs.*	*Bacon, lbs.*	*Cheese, lbs.*
Liverpool	....	268	226,502	2,145,870	230,674
London	....	....	....	....	....
Glasgow	250	203	273,013	693,353	2,000
Hull	70	....	101,870	....	47,800
Bremen	25	5	243,939	15,629	....
Antwerp	10	67	2,301,713	1,000	4,150
Hamburg	....	....	777,721	252,000	....
Rotterdam	....	....	91,124	....	....
Havre	100	....	1,102,765	729,721	....
West Indies	1,346	169	561,694	307,810	11,666
B. N. A. Col	14	....	....	....	....
N. Granada	50	107	88,415	6,347	565
Venezuela	....	....	29,527	2,199	215
Brazil	....	....	152,557	....	....
Chili	....	....	5,000	....	....
Argentine Rep	....	....	24,000	....	....
Africa	....	1	800	....	....
Total	3,478	1,823	6,396,469	6,180,924	297,084
Week Dec. 17	1,567	1,000	2,225,000	1,000,000	261,000
Week Dec. 7	3,277	3,181	3,120,202	2,640,472	272,469
Week Nov. 26	3,648	2,697	3,100,674	2,856,264	274,842
Week Nov. 19	2,838	2,686	2,226,000	2,000,000	261,000
Week Nov. 12	2,716	1,977	3,841,158	2,234,071	766,516

And 70,251 lbs butter, 1,000 lbs grease, 83,136 lbs stearine.

And from Nov. 1 to Dec. 14, inclusive, for four years:

	1872-73.	1871-72.	1870-71.	1869-70.
Pork, brls	17,623	17,868	13,572	9,617
Beef, pkgs	11,049	20,766	20,348	11,464
Lard, lbs	26,476,320	25,051,359	9,999,824	3,144,977
Bacon, lbs	23,926,200	21,530,702	4,985,297	3,517,197
Butter, lbs	602,534	830,265	196,998	294,420
Cheese, lbs	4,870,697	4,296,159	1,197,164	4,064,705
Tallow, lbs	5,477,729	9,192,407	2,067,648	4,410,677

SALT.

The following shows the amount of salt inspected in Michigan each year since the salt inspection was established in that State:

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.
Fine salt, brls	513,986	630,291	655,923	675,031
Packers'	12,913	17,369	14,677	11,110
Solar	15,264	15,507	37,645	24,461
Second quality	19,117	19,659	19,990	19,976
Refuse	4,370	7,613	4,262	....
Total	569,632	629,979	732,473	724,481

A sale was made on the 18th instant of 2,500 brls salt at the works at $1.65—the highest price that has been touched for more than three years past.

THE IRON TRADE OF ENGLAND.

The official returns made to the English Mining Record Office show that in the year 1871 21,948 tons of iron ore were produced in Cornwall; 14,125 tons in Devonshire; 32,884 tons in Somersetshire; 207,599 tons in Gloucestershire; 159,994 tons in Wiltshire; 28,330 tons in Oxfordshire; 779,314 tons in Northamptonshire; 290,673 tons in Lincolnshire; 415,972 tons in Shropshire; 34,075 tons in Warwickshire; 1,513,080 tons in North Staffordshire; 705,665 tons in South Staffordshire; 492,978 tons in Derbyshire; 931,048 tons in Lancashire; 1,802,704 tons in Cumberland; 4,581,901 tons in the North Riding of Yorkshire; 407,407 tons in the West Riding; 285,297 tons in Northumberland and Durham; 51,887 tons in North Wales; 969,714 tons in South Wales and Monmouthshire; 75 tons in the Isle of Man; 3,000,000 tons in Scotland; 107,734 tons in Ireland. The total iron ore production of the United Kingdom, of which returns were received, amounted, therefore, to 16,384,884 tons, of the value of £7,670,572. To this quantity may be added 200,000 tons of burnt ore from cupreous pyrites, and 324,175 tons of iron ore imported, bringing the total quantity smelted up to 16,859,064 tons. There were 673 furnaces in blast—viz., 429 in England, 117 in Wales, 127 in Scotland. There were 6,627,179 tons of pig iron produced in Great Britain in 1871—4,379,370 tons in England, 1,087,899 tons in Wales, 1,160,000 tons in Scotland. This total, estimated at the mean average price at the place of production, would have a value of £16,567,947. There were 94,166 tons of pig iron made in Northamptonshire, 79,244 tons in Durham, 1,020,885 tons in the North Riding of Yorkshire, and 114,549 tons in the West Riding, 270,485 tons in Derbyshire, 520,358 tons in Lancashire, 336,563 tons in Cumberland, 129,467 tons in Shropshire, 268,300 tons in North Staffordshire, 725,716 tons in South Staffordshire, 60,512 tons in Northamptonshire, 370,122 tons in Lincolnshire, 98,997 tons in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, and Somersetshire; 510,087 tons in Glamorganshire, 470,982 tons in Monmouthshire, 41,893 tons in Denbighshire, 20,086 tons in Brocknockshire, 84,761 tons by anthracite furnaces in South Wales. The list of mills and forges at work in 1871 includes 367 works, and shows 6,841 puddling furnaces and 866 rolling mills. There were 19 works in Great Britain having Bessemer converters in 1871; the number of converters at these works varied from 2 to 18, and the capacity of the converters from 3 to 10 tons. It is estimated that there were 2,393,293 boxes of tin, terne, and black plates made in the United Kingdom in 1871.

LATER.

In the afternoon wheat was fairly active and firmer, No. 2 spring selling at $1.18¾ cash, and $1.19@1.19¼ seller January, and $1.20¾@1.21 seller February, both options closing at the inside. Corn was quiet and a shade stronger, closing at 30¾c cash, 30¾@30¾ seller January, closing at 30¾c; and 31¾c seller February. Oats and other grain were quiet and unchanged. Provisions were neglected.

CHICAGO DAILY MARKET.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 24.

ALCOHOL—Was 2c lower, owing to a falling off in the demand and the recent decline in the high wines. We now quote 94 per cent proof at $1.78@1.83.

BROOM CORN—Was unchanged. Choice hurl and stock braid are in fair demand and firm. The market is generally supplied with the lower grades, which are almost unsalable. We quote: No. 1 hurl, 6@6½c per lb; No. 1 stalk braid, 5@5½c; No. 2 do, 4@4½c; No. 3 do, 3@3½c; inside grass, 3½@4c; do red up, 3c; do pale and red, 2@2½c.

BEANS—Choice varieties are in fair demand, on both local and shipping account, and the offerings are rather light. The lower grades are ample supply. We quote: Navies at $2.25@2.50; fair to prime at $1.75@2.00; common to medium at $1.25@1.50.

BUILDING MATERIALS—Were very dull. There were no changes in prices to report. We quote: Stucco, $2.50@2.75. New York stucco casing, $3.75@4.00; superfine do, $4.00@4.50; Rosendale cement, $2.25@2.50; Utica do, $2.00 per brl; Louisville cement, $2.00; Akron cement, $2.00; marble dust, $2.25@3.50; lime, in bulk, $1.00@1.25; lime (in brls), $1.25@1.50 per brl; white sand, per brl, $2.75@3.00; plastering hair, per bu, 40@45c; fire brick per M, $40.00@90.00; building brick (common), $21.00@23.00; country brick, $13.00@14.00; Woodstock pressed range at $25.00@40.00; St. Louis Hydraulic pressed, $45.00; do! Milwaukee, $38.00; do! Racine, $30.00; do! Kimballs, $26.00; do! fire clay, per brl, $4.00@5.00. The following is the list of prices per box of 50 feet, for domestic window glass, from which a reduction of 40 and 5 per cent is made by dealers:

Size.	*Double quality.*	*Double strength.*
6x 8 to 7x 9	$ 5.75	$ 8.00
7x10 to 8x10	6.50	9.00
9x10 to 10x13	7.00	10.00
8x14 to 10x15	7.50	11.00
10x14 to 12x18	8.00	12.00
14x16 to 16x20	8.50	13.50
16x22 to 18x24	9.00	14.50
19x22 to 18x30	10.50	18.50
20x28 to 24x30	13.00	20.00
24x30 to 24x36	13.00	22.00
26x28 to 28x40	15.00	26.00
28x36 to 30x48	16.00	27.00
30x50 to 32x52	....	29.00
32x50 to 34x56	....	31.00
36x50 to 40x60	....	40.00

BUTTER—The volume of business transacted in this department during the week under review has been comparatively light, the falling off in the demand being largely due to the intensely cold weather prevalent. The local demand continues about the same as usual, but the outward movement has been small, and as a result low and medium grades have eased up a little. Choice qualities are a still held with firmness as the arrivals barely equal the wants of local customers. We quote: Good to choice roll, 16@34c; strictly choice dairy packed, 29@32c; medium to good, 18@28c; inferior to common, 8@15c.

BAGGING—Continued firmness is noticeable in the market for cotton seamless bags. The enhanced cost of production resulting from the advance in the raw material has caused an advance of ½c in prices for all standard brands. Stark now being held at 35½c, Indlow at 36c, and Lawsston at 34½c. Burlaps are quiet and steady, as are also gunnies and wool sacks. We quote: Stark, 35½c; Indlow, 35c; Lewiston, 34½c; American, 32½c; Otter Creek, 33½c; burlap bags, 4 and 5 bu, 20@22½c; gunnies, single, 19@19½c; double, 28c; wool sacks, 63@70c.

CANNED GOODS—Business in this department has ruled very quiet for a number of days past, orders being few and mainly confined to supplying the current wants of local consumers. Prices, however, remain firm, and it is generally believed that before long the supply will fall considerably short of the requirements of the trade. Below are the quotations:

Peaches, 2 lb	$2.40@2.75
Peaches, 3 lb	2.75@3.50
Pears, 2 lb	2.25@2.50
Plums, damsons, 2 lb	2.25@2.50
Plums, green gages, 2 lb	2.00@2.40
Quinces	2.75@3.00
Strawberries, 2 lb	2.50@2.75
Raspberries	2.50@2.75
Blackberries, 2 lb	2.50@2.75
Gooseberries, 2 lb	2.25@2.50
Tomatoes, 2 lb	2.15@2.25
Tomatoes, 3 lb	2.60@2.70
Corn, Eagle	2.80@3.00
Corn, Benton Harbor	2.65@2.85
Corn, Yarmouth	2.90@3.00
Peas, 2 lb, pod	2.25@2.50
Peas, 2 lb, soaked	1.75@2.00
Lima Beans, 2 lb	2.60@2.75
Succotash, 2 lb	2.75
Lobster, 2 lb	3.25@3.50
Lobster, 1 lb	2.25@2.50
Oysters, 2 lb	1.25
Oysters, 1 lb	1.50

CHEESE—The inclement weather of the past few days caused an almost total suspension of business in this staple. A fair number of mail orders were received, but the mercury ranging from 10 to 24 degrees below zero the goods, of course, cannot be shipped, and the orders remain unfilled. Values remain nominally unchanged, but may be quoted weak. New York factory, 13@13½c; Ohio factory, 12@13c; Western factory, 11@13c.

COAL—It has been an active week in this department, the intense cold causing a largely increased consumption of fuel. Prices remain firm and unchanged. Only one dealer is now selling Lackawanna and Erie at our inside quotations, and but for him prices would no doubt be further advanced. We repeat our list: Lehigh, lump, $13.00@13.50; Lehigh, prepared, $13.00; Lackawanna, $12.00@13.00; Erie, $10.50@11.30; Briar Hill, $10.50@11.50; Walnut Hill, $11.50; Mooseburg, $10.00@11.00; Cherry Mine, $10.00; Hocking Valley, $10.00@10.50; Cannel coal, $9.50; Indiana block, $9.50@10.00; Minonk, $8.00; Wilmington, $7.00@7.50.

COOPERAGE—Was quiet and unchanged. We continue to quote: Pork barrels, $1.30@1.40; lard tierces, $1.75@1.80; whiskey barrels, $2.10@2.25; flour barrels, 60@65c; rough staves, $18.00@20.00; hogshead staves, $26.00@30.00; do do heads, $9.00@9.50; circle flour headings, 7½@8c per set; flour hoop poles, $14.00@17.00 ₩ m; pork and tierce poles, $30.00@40.00 ₩ m; whiskey barrel staves, $23.00@27.00 ₩ m.

CALIFORNIA FRUIT—There was a fair local inquiry for pears. The supply is light, but ample. We quote: East Bourre and Beurre Gris at $4.00@4.50; Winter Nelis at $5.00@6.00.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS—Were in fair demand. We note a decline in asafœtida caused by a falling off in the demand; now quotable at $1.50. The following are the prices current.

Acid, citric, ₩ lb	$ 1.45 @ 1.50
Acid, oxalic, lb	37 @ 40
Acid, tartaric, powdered, lb	65 @ 70
Ammonia, carb., lb	30 @ 35
Asafœtida, ₩ lb	1.50 @ ....
Axle-grease, Bidwell's, doz	1.50 @ 1.55
Beans, Tonqua, lb	1.30 @ 1.35
Borax, ref., lb	15 @ 18
Bi-vitriol, lb	15 @ 18
Bromo-chloralum, pts., doz	.... @ 4.00
Corrosive sublimate	1.35 @ 1.40
Cream tartar, pure, lb	60 @ 65
Cochineal, Honduras, lb	90 @ 1.00
Chloroform, lb	1.30 @ 1.40
Glycerine, 1lb bulk, lb	25 @ 40
Gum camphor, lb	80 @ ....
Gum opium, lb	8.50 @ 8.75
Gum shellac, lb	58 @ 63
Glue, white, lb	45 @ 50
Iodine, resub., lb	11.00 @ 12.50
Lye, conc., case	8.25 @ ....
Morphia, sulph., oz	5.50 @ 5.75

...dre cow.....1,100 4.00
...common cows.....862 3.50
...Hereford steers.....960 3.90
...ean steers.....932 3.35

...OGS—Packers had things pretty much their ...y, to-day, shippers being unable to obtain ..., and, therefore, not competing. There was ...rong effort to force down prices, and during ...forenoon the market had a rather downward ...but the receipts came in lighter than had ...n anticipated, and this fact stimulated hold... and prices were tolerably well sustained ...ghout. The extreme range was $3.40@3.80, ...inside for a coarse mixed lot, and the out... for 75 extra Berkshire hogs, averaging 427 ...

These hogs were fattened by Cornell & ..., of Crawfordsville, Indiana, and were the ...s offered here, thus far, this season. They ...e sold by Mallory Brothers. Trading was ...r from the opening to the close at $3.50@3.85 ...common; at $3.60@3.65 for medium, and at ...0@3.75 for good to really choice. The mar... closed weak.

HOGS SOLD.

Av.	Price.	No.	Av.	Price.	No.	Av.	Price.
266	3.70	117	276	3.50	94	305	3.62
243	3.70	81	263	3.55	94	304	3.62
310	3.75	41	272	3.55	63	194	3.62
297	3.43½	29	274	3.55	96	281	3.62
266	3.45	104	284	3.50	42	406	3.70
341	3.75	34	269	3.50	47	304	3.50
282	3.50	42	278	3.50	90	300	3.70
270	3.50	44	241	3.50	92	319	3.50
270	3.65	66	295	3.65	48	353	3.65
270	3.50	66	300	3.55	97		3.55
262	3.70	44	311	3.65	31		3.62
293	3.65	48	317	3.65	104	245	3.50
260	3.70	48	306	3.70	132	300	3.70
263	3.50	134	298	3.75	48	329	3.75
294	3.70	107	293	3.75	60	220	3.70
244	3.80	44	289	3.55	104	299	3.60
318	3.70	45	264	3.40	60	277	3.50
299	3.62½	92	263	3.70	56	245	3.50
300	3.70	43	303	3.70	75	427	3.90
300	3.72	46	318	3.65			

...HEEP—The sheep trade was dull, and prices ...ored buyers. The supply was small, but am... We quote common at $3.00@3.50, medium ...3.75@4.00, and good to choice at $4.25@ ...0.

CHICAGO DRY GOODS MARKET.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 24.

The dry goods market for the week under review has been chiefly notable for the utter absence of anything resembling activity. Very few interior dealers put in an appearance, while the orders received by mail were mostly for small parcels to complete assortments, and the sales show a smaller aggregate than for any previous week of the season. The marked falling off in the demand has not, however, resulted in any "softening" of prices. Notwithstanding the late advance in cotton and woollen textiles, manufactured goods are still relatively lower than the raw materials, and, with the revival of trade that must inevitably follow the present stagnation, certain lines of goods, it is said, must further advance. In anticipation of an upward movement of prices, some of our jobbers have recently made purchases largely in excess of present requirements, though, generally speaking, the stocks of the carpet trade continues dull, with no material variation in prices. Our dealers are carrying no surplus stock, and this fact, together with the enhanced cost of manufacture, tends to support strength to the market, and quotations for a fortnight ago are firmly maintained.

The import of foreign dry goods for the week ending Dec. 21, into the port of New York, and since Jan. 1, for the past three years, compare as follows:

IMPORTS OF DRY GOODS FOR THE WEEK.

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Entered at the port.....	$ 1,583,643	$ 1,470,799	$ 1,909,748
Thrown upon the market.....	1,613,403	1,186,132	1,504,652
Entered for consumption.....	721,354	838,813	1,108,623

IMPORTS OF DRY GOODS SINCE JAN. 1.

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Entered at the port.....	$106,304,775	$132,897,744	$135,066,345
Thrown upon the market.....	105,298,104	129,883,634	126,434,474

Below are the prices current:

BROWN COTTONS.

Atlantic A, 4-4.....	14	c Great Falls E, 4-4.....	13½
Atlantic H, 4-4.....	13½	Cabot A, 4-4.....	13
Atlantic P, 4-4.....	12½	Cabot W, 4-4.....	12½
Atlantic P, 7-4.....	12	Lawrence, L L, 4-4.....	12
Indian Head, 4-4.....	14	Agawam F, 4-4.....	11½
Indian Head, 7-4.....	12	Shawmut, L L.....	12
Park A, 4-4.....	12½	Swift River, L L.....	10
Pocasville, 36 in.....	13½	Hoosier, 4-4.....	11½
Pocasville, 30 in.....	11½	Osso C.....	10

PINK MUSLINS.

Joshua E, 40-in.....	16	c Dwight Star, 4-4.....	14½
Joshua E, 36-in.....	14½	Continental C.....	14½
Joshua O, 30-in.....	13½	Lawrence D.....	14½
Pepperell E, 40-in.....	14½	Newmarket A.....	13½
Pepperell O, 36-in.....	13½	Massachusetts B.B..	13
Pepperell O, 30-in.....	12½	Massachusetts E.....	12
Pepperell N, 30-in.....	11½	Portsmouth F.....	9

PRINTS.

Merrimac W. Pink.....	13½	c Garner Fancy.....	11½
Merrimac D. Fancy.....	11½	Amoskeag Fancy.....	10
Pocheco Fancy.....	12	Mourning.....	11 to 11½
Cocheco Fancy.....	11½	Gloria.....	10½ to 10
Cocheco Fancy.....	11½	Mallory Pink.....	11½
Cocheco Fancy.....	11½	Mallory Purple.....	11½
American Fancy.....	11½	Manchester.....	11½
Sprague Fancy.....	11½	Manasquita Fancy.....	9½

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster.....	14	c Amoskeag.....	14
Lancaster.....	14	Glasgow.....	14
Lancaster.....	14	Hartford.....	13

CORSET JEANS.

Manchester satteens..	16	c Rockport.....	13½
Manchester satteens..	15	Columbian.....	12½
Scotch satteens.....	13½	Indian Orchard.....	12½

CAMBRICS.

Garner Flat.....	8½	c Sister's Paper.....	10½
Washington.....	8½	Manville Paper.....	10½
High Colors, one cent extra.			

BLEACHED COTTONS.

Lonsdale cambric.....	22½	c Androscoggin, L.....	18
Lonsdale, do.....	20	Blackstone, AA.....	18
New York Mills.....	18	Dwight Star.....	16
Farmerville.....	18½	Dwight Star.....	15
Pride of the West.....	20	Western Product.....	13½
Langdon, GB.....	19	Harris.....	13½
Fruit of the Loom.....	16½	Gold Medal.....	13½
Lonsdale, 4-4.....	16	Social, L.....	12½
Utica.....	15	Green, G.....	11½
Auburn, A.....	16		

TICKS.

Minnehaha, 4-4.....	35	c Methuen, AA.....	24
Minnehaha, 7-8.....	30	Willow Brook, No. 1..	24
Amoskeag, ACA.....	30	Portland, AAA.....	26
Amoskeag, A.....	24	York, 30-inch.....	20
Amoskeag, C.....	20	York, 30-inch.....	20
Amoskeag, C.....	19	Pacific.....	15
Swift River.....	17	Workingman's.....	17½

DENIMS.

York Blue.....	25	c Warren, AXA.....	23
Amoskeag.....	25	Warren, BB.....	20
Amoskeag, AC.....	23	Warren, CC.....	17
Otis, AXA.....	22	Workingman's.....	17½
Otis, BB.....	20	Haymaker.....	13½
Otis, CC.....	17	Boston.....	10½

STRIPES.

Whittenton, A.....	21½	c Whittenton, C.....	13½
Whittenton, B.....	18	Amoskeag, C-3.....	13½
Amoskeag, 5-8.....	18	American, 3-8.....	13½

CANVAS.

Standard white.....	38	c Continental.....	33½
Rockford, GGG.....	36	Bee Hive, colored..	37½
Snakes.....	33		

CARPETINGS.

Tapestry Brussels.

Bright's.....	$1.25	Higgins.....	$1.20
Crossleys.....	1.45	Roxbury.....	1.35

Three-Ply.

Hartford, extra.....	$1.60	Lowell.....	$1.60
Hartford, Imp'l.....	1.60	Smiths & Sanfords.	1.50

Two-Ply.

Smith's tapestry.....	$1.40	Lowell extra.....	$1.30
Hartford extra.....	1.35	Lowell superfine..	
Hartford med.....	1.20	Common wool.....	70@80
Belgrade.....	90	Union.....	50@60

Hemp.

Common plain.....	22½@27½	Twilled and ex. 2Pl..	5

Matting.

English cocoa, best..	50	China matting 4-4...	30
American, common..	35	China matting 5-4...	35
American, best.....	75	China matting 6-4...	45
Red and wh. ch'k 4-4	30	Red and wh. ch'k 6-4	45
Red and wh. ch'k 5-4	40		

TERMS:

Spool thread, grain bags, etc., 30 days, or 3 per cent off 30 days.

Domestics, cottonades, Kentucky jeans, etc., 1 per cent off 30, 2 per cent off 10 days.

Regular department goods, 4 per cent. off 60, 5 per cent. off 30, 6 per cent off 10 days.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLIE

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK, } SS.
OFFICE CLERK COUNTY COURT,
CHICAGO, Dec. 18, 1872.

In pursuance of instructions from the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, public notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received at this office until Friday, Jan. 3, 1873, at noon, for furnishing Cook County with all blank books, stationery, printing, binding, etc., required for use of the county for one year; also all the meat, provisions (except potatoes), flour, milk, butter, groceries, dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, medicines, supplies, and wood, needed for the Insane Asylum, County Poor House, County Hospital, and County Agency for one year ending Dec. 31, 1873, to be delivered at such places and at such times as the county may direct.

Exhibits showing an approximation of the kinds and quantities of different articles needed by the county will be open to the inspection of bidders at the office of the County Clerk.

All bidders will be required to enter into bond with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the County Court, in a penalty sufficient to guarantee the faithful performance of the contract, the County reserving the right to reject any or all bids if deemed expedient to do so. Blanks for proposals and bonds can be obtained at the office of the County Clerk.

Payments to be made promptly in cash immediately after the bills shall have been audited by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County.

All proposals to be addressed to the County Clerk of Cook County, and indorsed "Proposal for ——."

JOSEPH POLLAK, County Clerk.

All weekly papers in the city (except those having official patronage), please insert once.

FURNITURE.

Furniture

JOHN KRAUS, 229 Blue Island-av. Great Closing Out Sale. Intending to discontinue the retail branch of my business by the first of January, 1873, and to devote myself only to the manufacturing and wholesale trade, I now offer to the public a line of new Furniture, Chamber Suits, Parlor Suits, &c., at greatly reduced prices.
JOHN KRAUS, Furniture Manufacturer.

NEW YORK.

The New Illustrated Daily---Strange Presentiment of Death.

Phillips' "Lost Arts"---Stenographic Revenges---Reported Theatric Failure.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21, 1872.

THE ILLUSTRATED DAILY.

David G. Croly, who lately resigned the managing-editorship of the *World*, intends to occupy the same position on the new illustrated daily which J. H. and C. M. Goodsell, publishers of the *Spectator* and *Financier*, are to issue early next month. The Messrs. Goodsell have backed it, it is said, to the extent of $500,000, and are thirsty sanguine of success.

EDWIN FORREST,

have been told, had always expressed a sincere desire to die suddenly, and, when in this city recently, remarked to a friend that he did not believe he should see the New Year. He denied that he was in gloomy spirits, but he had long had a presentiment that he should not survive 1872. Discussing the subject, he said death had never had the slightest terrors for him, that he could not overcome, unreasonable as he knew it to be, a certain dread of physical decay. His estate, I understand, will prove to be worth not far from $2,000,000,—his library, perhaps the finest private collection in the country, being valued at $250,000. He had a magnificent illustrated black-letter copy of Shakespeare, for which he is reported to have refused, and to have refused, $20,000, which was offered, and to have refused, $20,000, which was offered, and to have refused, $20,000, which was offered

THE ICE-KING.

His Persistent Tyranny and Despotic Exercise of Power.

Yesterday's Meteorological Observations---Where it was the Coldest.

Effect Upon Railroads, Gas and Water Pipes.

War Department Prognostications for To-Day.

Reports from Various Parts of the Country.

CHICAGO.

Boreas still persists in sending mercury to the lower end of the thermometer tube, thereby provoking Mr. Frost to lunch on people's ears, and to insinuate himself where his company is not ardently desired. This persistent tyranny and despotic exercise of power is becoming well nigh unbearable, and will shortly terminate in a cry of rebellion, if not in rebellious acts.

Perhaps the worst feature of the case is that Boreas is no respecter of persons, and is not to be "fooled" with by beauty, wealth, or high station. Boreas really insults every subject who presents himself before him, by blowing cold breath in his face, and tramping upon his toes, and, indeed, it seems better for one to bear unmurmuringly the severity of Boreas' measures than to plead for mercy and relief.

Yesterday the mercury, as observed by Mr. L. Manasse, optician, at No. 33 West Madison street, stood as follows:

8:00 a. m.	18 deg. below zero
8:30 a. m.	17 deg. below zero
9:00 a. m.	16 deg. below zero
10:30 a. m.	13 deg. below zero
11:30 a. m.	7 deg. below zero
12:30 p. m.	1 deg. below zero
2:00 p. m.	3 deg. above zero
3:30 p. m.	6 deg. above zero
4:30 p. m.	8 deg. above zero
8:00 p. m.	8 deg. above zero

It will be observed that during the day the mercury went up very gradually, and with much regularity, the average in each half hour being only 1°.

Observations elsewhere indicate more severe weather. At Evanston, at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, the mercury stood at 30° below, and at 6 o'clock 29° below. At 7 o'clock, on Warren, near Ashland avenue, it was down to 29° below. On Ashland avenue, near Union Park, it was 28° below. The severest weather indicated was by a thermometer at the crossing of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Chicago & Indiana Central Roads, which marked 33° below at 6:30 yesterday morning. A communication from the Illinois Industrial University shows that the standard thermometers of the meteorological station of the University registered a minimum temperature of 34° below zero on Monday.

THE RAILROADS.

The "cold snap" has seriously interfered with the time-tables of the various railway lines coming in and leaving this city, all of them being considerably behind time on account of the difficulty in watering the iron horses, and of broken rails; yet no accident worthy of mention has happened, owing to the great care and precautions taken by the managements of the various lines. Two freight trains were off the track on the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad, and a passenger train ran off the track on the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, dislocating the shoulder of a passenger, but otherwise doing no injury. The Union Pacific Railroad has as yet experienced no trouble, and is making regular trips through to San Francisco.

On Tuesday morning about 2 o'clock the night express train bound south, on the Wisconsin Division of the Chicago & North-western Railroad, when about four miles north of Harvard Junction, was thrown off the track by a broken rail. The engine was partly "ditched," and the express, baggage, and smoking cars were set off to one side of the track. The fireman of the engine and the conductor were slightly injured. The passengers were taken to Harvard Junction by a relief train sent from the latter place. The wreck was not cleared away until late in the day, delaying all traffic on the road about twelve hours. Early on Tuesday morning a freight train was thrown from the track by a broken rail, two miles from Lawrence. By 10 a. m. the cars were again on the track. Farther than these trivial accidents the various lines of the Chicago & Northwestern Road, comprising about 2,000 miles, have escaped all accidents occasioned by the cold weather.

The 8 a. m. train on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad did not reach the city until yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The delay was occasioned by a broken rail in the vicinity of Delta, Ohio. The morning trains of the Chicago & Alton Road did not reach the city until noon. Railroad time tables have been much tampered with, and the result is that hotel proprietors do not know when to anticipate the arrival of guests, and keep smoking meals during the whole day.

THE WATER AND GAS PIPES.

Not content with exclusive jurisdiction outside, the Winter King has gone within doors, and has blown his icy breath into the water and gas pipes, producing darkness at night and dryness day and night. The household cry has not proceeded from the baby's throat, but from the mouth of the good mother, who has repeated, as often as her husband has been within hearing, "Go for the plumber." Plumbers have been gone for, but being requested to call at every house on the street at the same hour, have not always gone when called for. Their place of business have been quite as popular as ice stores and candy shops, and proprietors have employed double the force they ordinarily work. Not a shop, however small or large, has the capacity to serve its customers as they have ordered, and from the suffering and inconvenience prevailing in the household plumbers are reaping rich profits. In some shops there are 200 orders not filled. Yesterday the cold was so intense that water froze while running, and, in one case, a plumber went to the Masonic Temple, on Washington street, and, having completely thawed out the pipes, went home to dinner. When he returned the janitor of the building was waiting at the plumber's office to inform him that the pipes had frozen up again. In blocks which are heated by steam, water-pipes and gas-pipes are not frozen up. Plumbers say that if people would use their water apparatus properly, no pipes would freeze. They direct that, upon the approach of cold weather, the water should be shut off, and the water then let out of the pipes. When water is wanted during the cold spell, it should be turned on only long enough to let out the quantity needed at that time, and then the water-cock should be left open until the pipes are emptied. Following this plan, no one would suffer the deprivation of water during severe weather. There are two ways of thawing out pipes. The ordinary way is to dash hot water upon them; but this is subject to many objections, not the least of which is that it freezes to the surface of the pipe before it melts the ice inside. The surest way is to pour benzine over and down the pipe, and then set it on fire. It is estimated that enough benzine has been consumed in this process in the last twelve hours, by plumbers, to blow the city to the vicinity of certain brilliant luminaries. The use of benzine is, of course, attended with great danger, and we almost hesitate to announce it as an efficient agent in the thawing out of water-pipes, lest some household may be lost to sight, and the much-anticipated festivities of the holidays postponed indefinitely.

THE DOCTORS OF GAS PIPES

are likewise rushed with a large practice, which it is only safe to pursue during the day,—the presence of a light near by a gas pipe, even in which the gas is frozen, not insuring absolute safety to those who may be in that vicinity. Last night there were many houses in comparative darkness; for the light of a tallow candle isn't much, despite the fact that it was used by our forefathers. Gas pipes do not freeze solidly, as water pipes do, but the gas is condensed by the cold into a frost, which so fills up the pipe that little gas can pass through. The principal remedy used is alcohol, although in one case yesterday, where this was not at hand, a workman emptied a flask of whiskey into a pipe with good effect, both to the pipe and himself. The alcohol is generally pumped in, and seldom fails to rid the pipes of the frost. The greatest difficulty is found in reaching the spot where the pipe is frozen, and a quart of alcohol pumped in a pipe at the top of the house often runs just where it is not wanted, viz: out of the gas burner which is suspended over the dining table. The gas men also have preventatives, which, if used, would obviate all difficulty from cold weather. They say that if inside pipes were properly laid within the walls of a house, they would seldom freeze. They also would call the attention of customers who have unnecessarily patronized them during the past few days, to the fact that every gas meter is provided with an alcohol cock, which would doubtless receive the melting spirit from the hands of a member of the household with the same good effect as if poured in by a gas-fitter. The frost clings to gas pipes with great tenacity. The Gardner House pipes have been treated to alcoholic spirits for two days past, but demand more yet. At the Putnam Clothing House, on Madison street, the pipes were actually flooded with alcohol yesterday, without in the least warming them. But, if warm weather ever returns, the Ice King will speedily releases his hold upon the gas-pipes. Not so with the water-pipes, however, which will not be released until thawed out by warm water or benzine.

It is to be hoped that the grip of Boreas may be speedily relaxed everywhere, and milder breezes prevail than have been experienced during the past few days.

ELSEWHERE.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 24.—It was the coldest weather ever known in this valley last night and this morning. On Sunday morning, at 7 o'clock, the thermometer showed 15 below zero. Just after noon, it was 2 above; at 5 in the afternoon, 4 below; at 8 it was 6 above; went down to zero, and oscillated just above or below until about noon yesterday. With a slight snow fall and a terrible driving wind in the afternoon, it fell below zero as the wind died away, and at 8 o'clock it was 10 below; at 11 o'clock, 20 below, and at 2:30 this morning 32 below, and between 6 and 7, 38 below, which is 10 to 14 degrees colder than the oldest residents have recorded. Indeed, all say nothing like it was ever known in Western Michigan. Many fear that the peaches and grapes are killed to the roots, even peaches several years old. Spring only can determine the full extent of the damage that must follow such temperature. No cases of freezing to death are reported, as during the night and morning no wind was blowing. Trains on the Grand River Valley, Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, Chicago & Michigan Lake Shore and the Indiana Railroads were obstructed yesterday and this forenoon, but to-night are all on time leaving the city, and nearly on time arriving. The sleeping coach for Chicago over the Chicago & Michigan Lake Shore Railroad left all right. The tracks are reported all clear. The Detroit and Milwaukee trains have run on time all the time. The Milwaukee boat arrived at Grand Haven all right this morning.

At 10 o'clock, this evening, the thermometer shows above zero, and growing perceptibly warmer.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 24.—The weather continues cold. The mercury was at zero at 4 o'clock. The river continues to recede slowly.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 24.—It was the coldest weather ever known here on Sunday morning—25 deg. below zero. On Monday there was a fearful wind, with the mercury from 2 to 5 below. This morning it was several degrees colder than ever before. The mercury was 34 below zero in the village, and 18 to 20 at the Insane Asylum on the hills west of the village. The great depth of the snow, 18 inches, prevented the freezing of the water mains. Trains are behind time on all the roads.

The telegraph wires, which were held on during the cold of Sunday morning, snapped asunder, though not to an alarming extent, yesterday morning and to-day. The range in the thermometer Sunday was thirty-five degrees; to-day it has been forty-four, that is, thirty-four below to ten above. The railroads are in better shape this winter, especially the Central, to meet the cold weather, having now a much better track, and thirty-two miles of double track in use, and a much improved class of power. The water supply has frozen at many places along the roads. The power on the Central to-day was supplied from the village hydrants. To-night promises to be another "subsercic" night.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 24.—To-night was the coldest known here for twenty-five years. The mercury ranged from 5 to 10 above zero during the day. The river is filled with heavy ice, and navigation is entirely suspended.

DENISON, Texas, Dec. 24.—Old settlers say this was the coldest morning ever experienced in Northern Texas, the thermometer standing 10 degrees above zero.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

FORT WAYNE, Dec. 24.—The weather has moderated considerably, and the trains are running nearly on time.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The Signal Service thermometer reports at 6:53 o'clock this morning as follows:

San Francisco	55 ab	Toledo	9 be
Corinne, Utah	...	Cleveland	1 be
Omaha	28 ab	Cincinnati	1 ab
Idaho	3 ab	Pittsburgh	2 be
Milwaukee	21 be	Buffalo	2 ab
Chicago	20 be	Burlington, Vt.	6 be
Davenport	17 be	Portland, Me.	2 ab
Dubuque	14 be	Boston	4 ab
St. Louis	14 be	New York	11 ab
Grand Haven, Mich	10 be	Philadelphia	9 ab
Detroit	14 be	Washington	8 ab
Saginaw	6 be	Charleston, S. C.	45 ab
Toronto	6 be	New Orleans	61 ab
Montreal	10 be	Memphis	5 ab
Indianapolis	11 be	Louisville	5 ab

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 24.—During the past two days was the coldest weather ever known here. The thermometer, on Sunday morning, stood 22 degrees below zero, with high winds. On Monday morning, 4 below; Tuesday morning, 30 to 34 below zero, in different localities. At the Agricultural College, on Monday night, a self-registering thermometer showed 45 below zero. There was much wind to-day. Few ears and noses frozen. The fall of snow has been about one foot. There is no serious blockade to railroads in this section.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LASALLE, Dec. 24.—It was 24° below zero this morning, in this city.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BELOIT, Wis., Dec. 24.—This is the coldest day for nine years, the thermometer standing at 38° below zero.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

OTTAWA, Ill., Dec. 24.—Last night was the coldest of the season. The thermometer averaged 27° below zero. The weather is moderating. Nine o'clock p. m.—It is now at about zero.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Last night was the coldest of the season thus far. There is considerable ice in the harbor. All vessels arriving within the past 24 hours report severe weather off the coast.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 24.—A special from Wabash, Ind., says that upward of 60 locomotives were frozen up and out of water between Huntington and Peru, Ind., for nearly 48 hours. Cattle, hogs, and sheep were frozen to death. No fatal cases of freezing among employes has been reported, though many had their limbs badly frozen. The thermometer here was at zero at 7 o'clock this morning.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., Dec. 24.—The storm is over, and all the mail and express trains will be running by noon.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Last night and this forenoon were the coldest of the season, the mercury falling to 8 degrees below zero, by Signal Service thermometer, and to 12 and 15 below by ordinary instruments, according to location. To-night, however, the temperature is much milder, being several degrees above zero. The river above the bridge is frozen strong enough for the passage of teams, and the transfer companies are laying a plank roadway on the ice preparatory to the transfer of freight. The river below the bridge is open for a distance of several blocks, and the ferries are doing their usual business.

PEORIA, Dec. 24.—The thermometer was 24 degrees below zero this morning.

DES MOINES, Dec. 24.—The thermometer was 28 degrees below zero here this morning.

JACKSONVILLE, Ill., Dec. 24.—The mercury stood at 23 degrees below zero, in this city, this morning at daybreak, being the coldest experienced in this region for fifteen years.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 24.—The weather is intensely cold here. Last night the thermometer ranged from 30 to 33 degrees below zero. There is no wind, but the thermometer stood 18 degrees below at noon. There is only about an inch of snow on the ground.

BATH, Me., Dec. 24.—The weather for the past few days has been bitterly cold. It is now (8 o'clock p. m.) 6 degrees below zero. At Richmond, at 9 a. m., it was 9 degrees below. There is probably more snow on the ground in this vicinity at this date than for the past twenty-five years.